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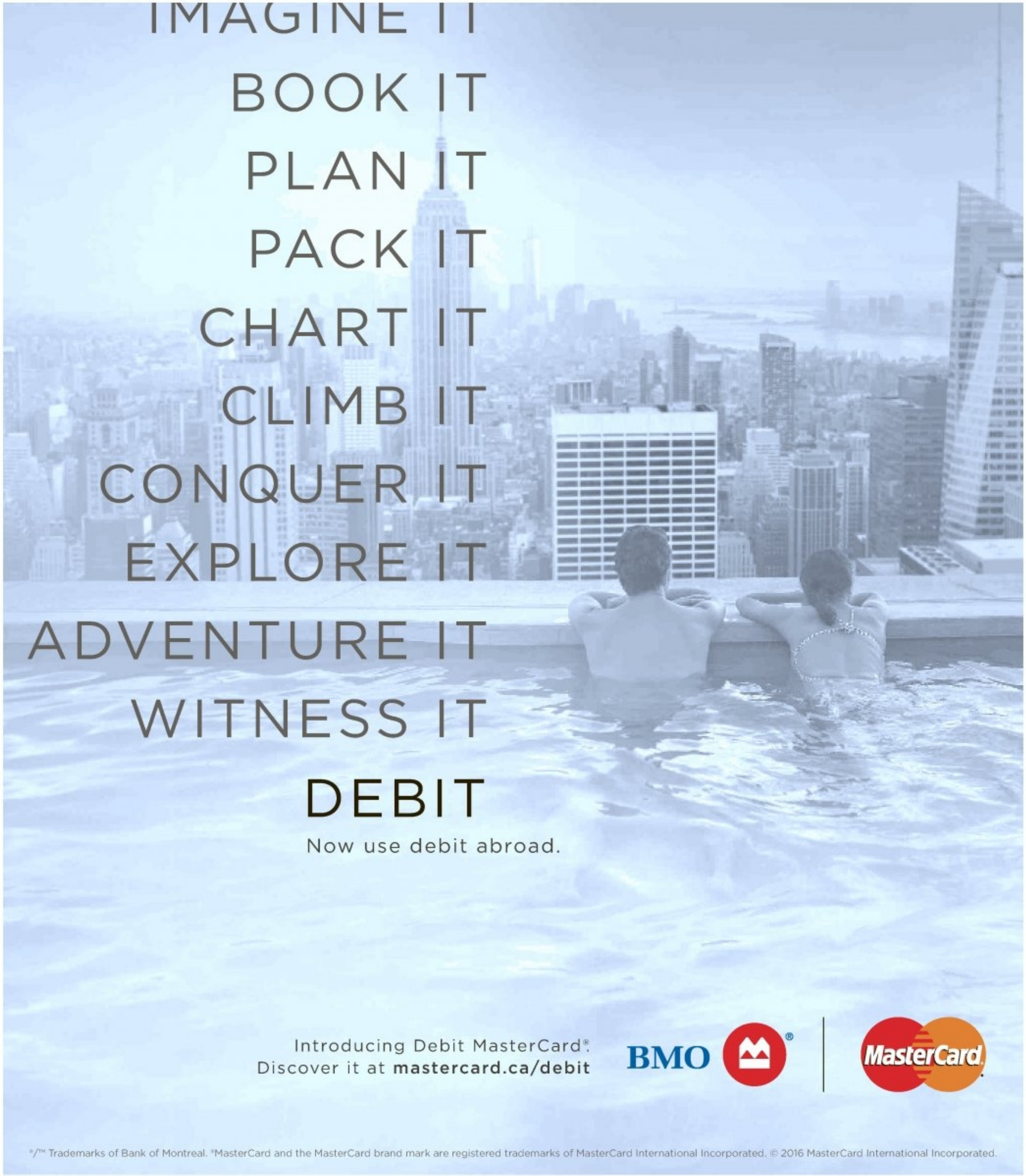
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Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JULY 22-24, 2016

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# Little house in the city

HOMELESSNESS

## Ted hauls his 4-by-6 shed with bed from park to park

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

"We all dream of owning our own homes," reads the hand-lettered sign on the little gray shed with white trim. "Some dreams come true while others don't."

The four-by-six-foot dwelling on wheels belongs to a 40-year-old Vancouver man who asked to be identified by his first name, Ted. Over the past two months, he's been parking his shed in various Vancouver parks, moving along whenever parks staff tape a notice to his door informing him they will remove his belongings from the park.

"If they keep bugging me I'll go somewhere different," Ted told Metro on Wednesday at Jonathan Rogers Park in Mount Pleasant.

By Thursday, Ted had pushed his shed down the road 10 blocks to a parking lot near Industrial Avenue, but he wasn't sure how long he would be able to stay.

Placing any kind of unapproved structure in a city park is prohibited by city bylaws, and enforcing that bylaw is the responsibility of Vancouver's park rangers.

Ted, a Vancouver resident, bought his shed for $300 on Craigslist and is determined to make it his home, even if that means staying one step ahead of the parks department. JEN ST. DENIS/METRO

"This one is rather unique for sure, in the way that it seems to be a well-built structure on wheels," said Chad Cowles, superintendent of park rangers.

The Vancouver parks department has received several complaints about the shed, which has been located at various times at Coopers' Park in Yaletown, Sutcliffe Park near Granville Island and Creekside Park near Science World.

When parks rangers encounter homeless people living in parks, they ask if the person needs housing, laundry, showers or food. If they accept help, the rangers will connect the person to the City of Vancouver's homelessness outreach team, said Cowles.

Park rangers put three types of notices on belongings and tents, he said: the first one saying the rangers would like to speak to the owner of the items, the second one saying parks staff have confirmed the belongings are abandoned, and the third stating that if items are not removed they will be taken to a secure location and stored until the owner comes to collect them.

This year's homelessness count showed Vancouver's homeless population at a 10-year high. Over the past five years, park rangers have noticed a steady increase in the number of homeless people living in parks, Cowles said.

"We get hundreds of calls about homeless (people) in parks and it's taken over about 80 per cent of our departmental resources," Cowles said, adding that rangers are increasingly assisting with health emergencies such as fentanyl overdoses.

Ted said he has been without a home for around a year. At first he couch surfed, but didn't like relying on friends. "I hate that, I feel like I'm always in the way," he said.

Ted found the shed on Craigslist and paid $300 for it. Inside there's room for a bed and a small garbage can; clothes hang neatly on hooks on the wall.

When he applied for social assistance, Ted said he was encouraged to find housing at a single-room-occupancy (SRO) hotel, where rooms are rented for around $375 a month. But he said he preferred his tiny mobile home to a bedbug-infested SRO.

"They can keep their money and I'd rather be outside," he said. "$375 a month — that's my house, if I can just find a place to put it. That way I don't have to pay a slumlord."

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# City's ready to splash the cash — for pop-up pools

VANSPLASH

## After lagging behind the rest, Vancouver set to catch up fast

**Matt Kieltyka**
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver's park board is diving head-first into the deep end.

Tired of seeing many communities in the city underserved, the board on Thursday launched a complete review of its aquatic services — along with a public consultation campaign called VanSplash — and committed to setting up its first-ever pop-up pool next spring.

"We've heard huge demand from people that want to swim outdoors when we have spectacular weather like this. And compared to other cities across Canada, Vancouver has fewer outdoor pools than any of them," said board chair Sarah Kirby-Yung.

"I'd say we're dramatically underserved at this stage. I would like to see in the coming years, certainly, two, three four, five (new) pools and that would still not put us at the same levels of comparable cities across the country."

Vancouver Park Board chairwoman Sarah Kirby-Yung and Dave Hutch, manager of research and planning, launch the VanSplash aquatics consultation at Kitsilano beach. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Aquatic staff will be at Kitsilano pool on Saturday and New Brighton pools on Sunday to kick off the 10-month consultation campaign and get public input and recommendations for potential locations of future facilities.

While traditional temporary outdoor pools are expensive to build and maintain, Kirby-Yung believes pop-up pools may be the solution.

> **What we're missing ... is that family experience throughout neighbourhoods.** Sarah Kirby-Yung

Pop-up pools have a shorter lifespan than permanent pools — five to 10 years — but can be quickly set up anywhere as long as there is proper drainage, access to electricity and amenities near the site. They can even be relocated, if necessary.

Park board commissioners will be briefed on potential design options and locations for the first pop-up pool, for spring 2017, their next meeting on Monday night.

Kirby-Yung said pop-ups offer "a quick and inexpensive way to get more folks swimming in more neighbourhoods around the city."

A location hasn't been chosen yet, but she singled out east and south Vancouver as areas that are currently underserved.

"We are very fortunate to have some (outdoor) pools at Kitsilano, Second Beach and New Brighton, all of which are adjacent to the ocean that are not accessible for a lot of families and for a lot of folks to get to," said Kirby-Yung. "What we're missing is services throughout the city and that family experience throughout their neighbourhoods."

Dave Hutch, manager of research and planning at the park board, said it could cost anywhere between $1 million and $2 million to set up a pop-up pool.

The board is looking to other jurisdictions for inspiration as it develops its next phase of aquatic services.

It cited Minneapolis's Webber Natural Pool (which uses plants to treat the water instead of chemicals) and New York's moving floating pool (built on a barge) as innovative options.

An online survey will be open on the park board's website starting Friday.

JUSTICE INSTITUTE

## Suspect admits to attacks

Fifteen families with a link to a British Columbia justice training centre were targets in the firebombings and shootings of their homes and vehicles by a man who has pleaded guilty to orchestrating the attacks, the Crown told a sentencing hearing Thursday.

Vincent Cheung, 43, of Langley, pleaded guilty in B.C. Supreme Court to 18 of 23 counts stemming from the attacks between April 2011 and January 2012.

Reading from an agreed statement of facts, Crown lawyer Joe Bellows said the man targeted the families throughout the Lower Mainland after tracking down their homes with information obtained from their licence plates.

All the victims — including a corrections officer and members of a church group — had a member of their family park at the British Columbia Justice Institute, which offers training for people working in public safety including police officers and firefighters, he said.

Bellows said the Crown and defence will jointly ask for sentencing in the range of 10 to 15 years in prison.

He said nine witness impact statements will shed light on what the families endured.

"A lot of emotional trauma, a lot of financial difficulties," he said outside court. "They were very traumatized. Especially those who were victimized more than once."

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HUDSON'S BAY

# Tap takes down musical walls

PERCUSSION

## Barbara Vargas's main instrument is her shoes

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Barbara Vargas graduated from VCC's Music diploma program. Vargas bought her first pair of professional tap shoes 13 years ago and still dances in them sometimes. "They don't make them like this anymore," she said. WANYEE LI/METRO

Barbara Vargas danced her way into being the first percussionist at Vancouver Community College's music program to graduate with tap dancing shoes as her instrument.

Using her shoes, hands and body to make music with others seemed like the natural thing to do, said the 30-year-old dancer. The school was initially hesitant about the idea but jumped on board when they saw her audition she said.

"Tap dance in general is a very percussive art form. Even just solely being a tap dancer, it's very musically focused," said the Vancouver dancer.

"You really have to be conscious of what you're putting out here in the world, musically as well as visually."

Vargas, who is originally from Edmonton, started tap dancing when she was three years old and has since performed in Germany, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York.

She plans to continue dancing for decades to come, something that not all dancers are able to do, depending on the type of dance they specialize in.

"The stretch of your tap dancing career is so vast. There are tap dancers who are amazing and they're in their 60s, 70s, and 80s and they're still growing and they're still learning," she said.

> **It's an exciting time for tap dance; it's coming back.**
> Barbara Vargas

"I don't see myself taking off my shoes anytime soon."

Studying music, even as someone who has tap danced for 27 years, has made her a better performer, she said. Much of her lesson time was spent trying to imitate the wide variety of drum sounds and rhythms using only her shoes.

"Gravity is not an issue when you're sticking — but it can be when you're dancing," she said, laughing.

Vargas graduated from VCC in December and was a feature soloist with the VCC Jazz Orchestra.

"It's amazing. It brings back that old-school Cotton Club feature dancer idea which is great."

But the transition from dancer to musician had its challenges for the accomplished tap dancer who was once part of the Canadian national tap dance team.

Other musicians sometimes don't take her seriously, said Vargas.

"They ask me, what are you going to play? I say, I'm a tap dancer and then they laugh," she said.

"There are still a lot of walls separating the two art forms, which can be a task for sure."

With her music diploma in hand, Vargas plans on breaking down those walls.

"My dream job would be to create an institute for musicians and dancers to learn and create together much like the Royal Winnipeg ballet, but for the rhythmic arts," she said.

"It's an exciting time for tap dance; it's coming back."

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Vancouver police tend to Tony Du, 51, whom they fatally shot Nov. 22, 2014 in East Vancouver, after he was shouting and hitting a fence with a two-by-four plank. Officers said he threatened them with the plank. YOUTUBE

# Policy to address psychiatric distress

POLICE

## New approach designed to reduce violence winning praise

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

The difference between the words "may" and "will" might seem insignificant. But when police are dealing with people in psychiatric distress, it could save a life.

According to a new Vancouver Police Department mental health policy released Thursday, the force is instructing its officers to de-escalate — or even avoid — confrontations with people in psychiatric distress, even though the Mental Health Act and other laws still state cops "may" take a more aggressive tack.

Instead, VPD members "are expected to recognize behaviours that are indicative of a person affected by mental illness or in a crisis," the policy states.

"When a member determines that police engagement in the first instance will result in undue safety concerns for the individual, the public and/or the members involved, it may be acceptable to not engage with the individual at all."

The policy also requires ongoing training of all officers in de-escalating conflict with distressed people, and involving mental health professionals and specialized members of the force.

That could potentially have saved the life of Tony Du on Nov. 22, 2014.

The 51-year-old was shouting and hitting a fence with a wooden plank near Knight Street and 41st Avenue, but was fatally shot seconds after officers arrived on scene as a perceived threat.

It was just one of a string of fatal encounters which represent a "dramatic increase in police interactions with persons living with mental illness," the VPD said in a statement Thursday.

"History has shown that police interactions with persons living with mental illness, and who are in crisis, sometimes have the potential for violence," the policy states. "Occasionally, the mere presence of the police can elevate the tenor of the interactions and complicate communication further."

That's a shift the Canadian Mental Health Association Vancouver Fraser lauded as "really progressive" and "an example to other police departments across the country," said executive director Michael Anhorn in a phone interview.

"Having ongoing training to deal with people with mental illness, especially for de-escalation and avoiding the criminal justice system, will help officers implement it," he said.

"When there isn't imminent harm to the public, we can then try to get mental health professionals to get in there and de-escalate the person."

Authored by VPD Supt. Daryl Wiebe, the new Mental Health Strategy is based on months of consultations with health authorities, University of British Columbia psychiatrists, and mental health advocates, including CMHA B.C.'s senior director of policy, research and planning, Jonny Morris.

"Police are often the first on the scene," he told Metro. "But police aren't always the most appropriate response.

"Living with a mental illness should not be a driving factor for ensnarement in the criminal justice system.

"We have a real obligation for people living with mental illness that their primary resource is the health system."

> We have a real obligation for people living with mental illness that their primary resource is the health system.
> Supt. Daryl Wiebe

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**The Celebration of Lights** fireworks festival at English Bay in July 2014. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

# English Bay set to light up again

CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

## Disney will headline the competition's third act

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver's biggest fireworks displays return to the city's skies this summer with Disney headlining the competition's third act on Saturday, July 30.

The 26th annual Honda Celebration of Light at English Bay is the longest-running offshore fireworks competition in the world and attracts about 1.4 million spectators every year.

This year, the Netherlands (July 23), Australia (July 27), and the United States (July 30) will compete for the title. The firework displays will start at 10 p.m. sharp, rain or shine, and spectators can follow along with the accompanying music on LG 104.3 FM or through the festival's app.

The fireworks competition is an iconic summertime tradition for Vancouverites, said Paul Tilbury, co-chair of the Vancouver Fireworks Festival Society.

"We have families who have grown up around the fireworks. There are even older kids who, now after 26 years, have their own children," he said.

"It has created a wonderful tapestry of community and it really does show all that's right about Vancouver."

The free event has also become an attraction for tourists. About 20 per cent of attendees in recent years come to English Bay from outside the Lower Mainland, said Tilbury.

For those who do not want to go to the beach early to save a spot, tickets for VIP viewing areas for The Keg Lounge, The Inukshuk Lounge, and The YVR Observation Deck can be bought at hondacelebrationoflight.com.

### WHEN

- **Saturday, July 23:** Netherlands (Royal Fireworks)
- **Wednesday, July 27:** Australia (Howard's Fireworks)
- **Saturday, July 30:** United States (Walt Disney Entertainment)

Fireworks start at 10 p.m. sharp, rain or shine

LILLIAN TO

## City to have first street named after a Chinese-Canadian

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Vancouver is about to get its first street named after a Chinese-Canadian.

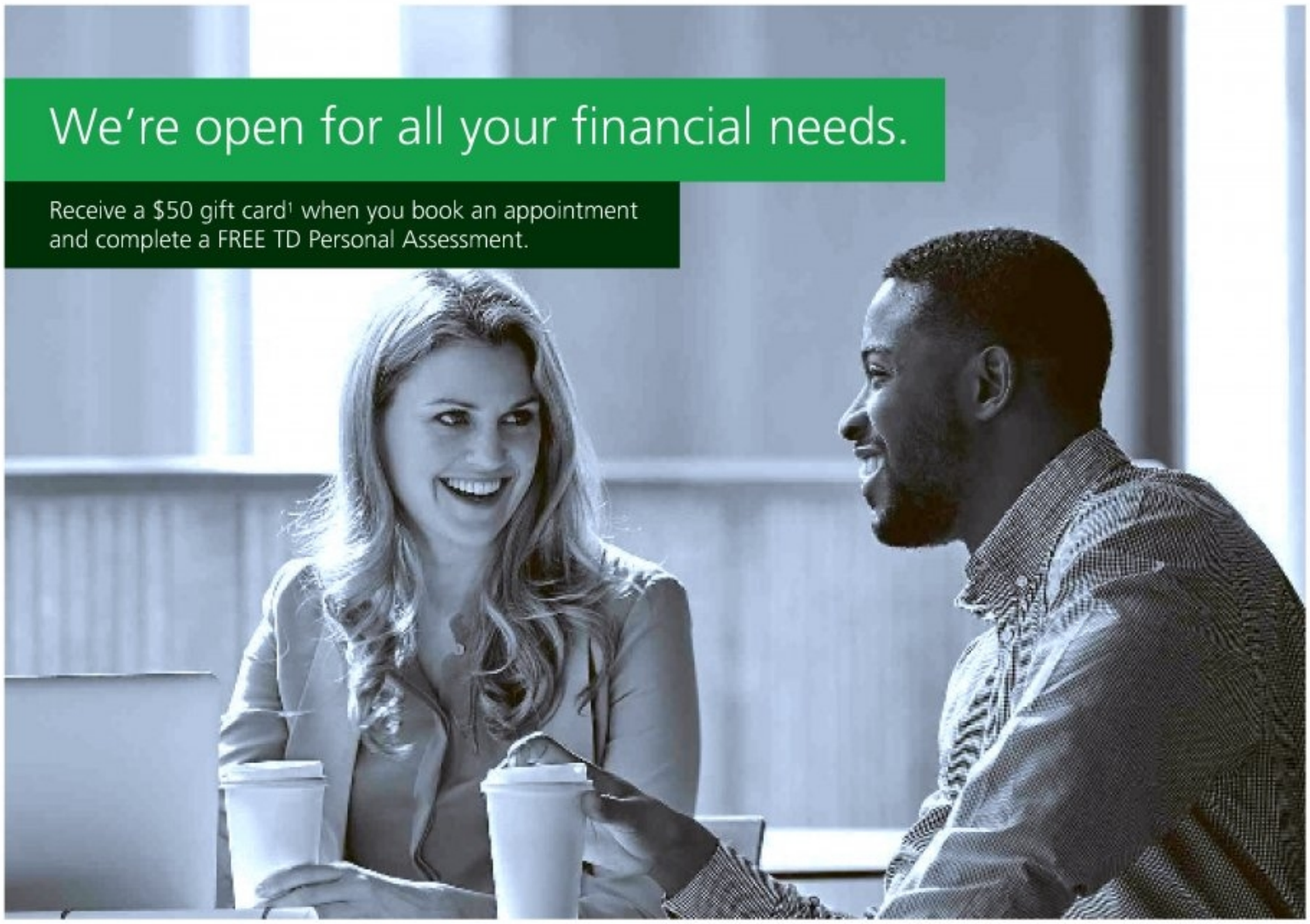
In the 1970s, Lillian To worked to get previously non-existent government funding for services to help immigrants get successfully settled in their new country.

She later served as CEO of immigrant services organization S.U.C.C.E.S.S., which had originally only served the Chinese community.

To expanded the society's mandate to offer services to all immigrant groups.

"Under her leadership, she was able to expand the services of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. from a basic immigrant agency that served Chinese only to a multi-service and multilingual organization," said Queenie Choo, the current CEO of S.U.C.C.E.S.S.

The small street in Chinatown that has been selected will retain its current name of Shanghai Alley, but the city will add a street monikor reading Lillian To Way and install a bilingual sign commemorating To's work.



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# VANCOUVERING

VANCOUVER TRENDING

**IMMERSIVE MULTIMEDIA**

## Leading the virtual race

**Amy Logan**
For Metro | Vancouver

Thousands of people attended Vancouver's first virtual reality (VR) Expo in May, immersing themselves in everything from full-motion video games to guided meditation in a virtual meadow.

From VR meetup groups to wildly experimental startup companies and massive VR conferences, Vancouver is at the forefront of what experts are calling the next platform shift. Also known as immersive multimedia, VR uses technology to simulate a real or imagined environment, artificially recreating sensory experiences — usually with a head-mounted display.

As the unprecedented popularity of Pokémon Go suggests, there is a growing appetite for the interrelated worlds of augmented reality, 360-degree technology and VR.

According to Mack Flavelle of Hammer and Tusk, a company that specializes in building VR experiences, some of the best VR in the world is happening right here. The company was recently acquired by Axiom Zen, an innovation studio with a talent pool of flexible and highly skilled workers.

Flavelle was the organizer behind last month's So/VR Journalism symposium, which highlighted the emerging field of VR journalism. The New York Times, for instance has recently invested in 360 video, VR films and Google Cardboard.

In a recent multimedia story called The Displaced, the viewer is immersed — via 360-degree video and surround sound — in the lives of children displaced by war, offering an immediate and visceral experience.

"Virtual reality creates the experience of being present within distant worlds, making it uniquely suited to projects, like this one, that speak to our senses of empathy and community," wrote Jake Silverstein in his introduction to the story.

Virtual reality is booming and Vancouver is among the cities at the forefront. COURTESY/WREN HANDMAN

# Don't want to hike alone? Time to get your group on

## Local clubs provide a social, safer alternative for enthusiasts who don't want to venture solo into the wilderness

FRESH AIR

**Graeme McRanor**
For Metro

If you like to hike alone and your mom is anything like mine, you might have received a "told-you-so" call on the perils of going solo in the wake of last weekend's rescue of a hiker stranded on Crown Mountain.

Fair enough. But while that gentleman's experience certainly doesn't help the soloist's case, for me it highlighted something else: the importance of being prepared.

Weather changes, darkness falls, and that protein bar you packed (and already ate) isn't enough for that unplanned night on the mountain.

I've already written about what to bring, which triggered an email from Scott Booth, who suggested I write a column geared to those who might want to experience the trails, but aren't so keen to do it alone.

Booth, a nine-year member and current director of the Burnaby Outdoor Club, originally joined a club because he couldn't get friends to hike with him as often as he'd like. Here's what he says an outdoor club such as the BOC offers:

**ON THE LOOKOUT MORE THE MERRIER** Experienced hikers have learned through trial and error what equipment is effective for them and love to share their tips with others. Those seeking advice, guidance or group-oriented activities can contact organizations like the Burnaby Outdoor Club, BC Mountaineering Club and North Shore Hikers. SUZY PATRICK/FOR METRO

- An activity schedule published monthly so that members can plan their weekends in advance.
- The safety of travelling in a group. The trip organizer has usually completed the route before, and so knows how to avoid pitfalls. If a BOC trip leader is trying out a new route on a club outing, he or she will advise potential participants of this on the posting, and research the area beforehand. Also, the larger the group, the less likelihood there is for encounters with wildlife.
- The social benefits of travelling in a group. A common interest, combined with a tranquil setting fosters conversation, connections, and ultimately friendship. Those who are not native English speakers get a chance to practise the language with like-minded individuals in a non-threatening environment.
- The opportunity to try different types of outdoor recreation. Throughout the year, the BOC organizes hiking, snowshoeing, bicycling, cross-country skiing, kayaking and multi-day trips.

Booth adds: "I would suggest that people consider which of these reasons for joining an outdoor recreation association ... Anybody who is suitably prepared can come out on one BOC day trip to see if it is the right club for them by simply choosing an upcoming event and calling the organizer."

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# VANCOUVERING

with icons by **Danielle Vallée** from the noun project

# Saving lives with An Evening in Damascus

## Weekend fundraiser will help bring Syrian lesbian couple to safety in Canada

CAFÉ POLITICS | Metro celebrates PRIDE WEEK

**David P. Ball**
Metro | Vancouver

Danny Ramadan, a gay Syrian refugee who's become a local celebrity in Vancouver LGBTQ circles since he arrived in 2014, knows that finally finding a safe haven is a "life-changing step."

Named one of this year's Vancouver Pride Parade Grand Marshalls, the 32-year-old is helping sponsor a Syrian lesbian couple living in a conservative Gulf Arab state, fearing they may be outed or deported to Syria.

This Saturday evening, he's hosting An Evening in Damascus event to help fundraise the $28,000 minimum needed to bring them to safety in Canada, featuring live music, a Syrian art auction, storytelling — and culminate in the Levant region's fast-paced popular dance, dabkeh.

"I'm trying my best to present an authentic view of what Damascus feels like," the Qmunity volunteer co-ordinator told Metro, "to present the beauty and culture of Syria."

In 2011 he and one of the women he's sponsoring, Mariam (not her real name), started an illegal LGBTQ drop-in centre in Damascus — connected to the Lebanon-based non-profit Helem (Lebanese Protection for the LGBT Community), which means "dream" in Arabic.

"We started an LGBTQ centre underground, a makeshift kind of thing," he told Metro in a phone interview. "It was illegal to start an organization in Syria.

"Somebody ratted us out. I was arrested and they closed down the centre. I got out of the city and she got out with her partner."

Ramadan escaped to Lebanon. Mariam and her partner Salam (also not her real name) fled south to another, more conservative country in the Persian Gulf where the late-20s couple live together today (for their safety, neither that country nor their identities can be revealed).

"They are really worried about their safety," Ramadan said, adding they risk deportation back to Syria.

For many Pride attendees, the week of daily events are a chance to celebrate and party with the LGBTQ community.

Being named Pride Grand Marshall inspired Ramadan to inject some deeper politics and global issues into the annual event — but it will still be a celebration, he promised.

"I'm going to show up in tight clothes to party," Ramadan joked. "But I don't want it to just be a party. It will also allow me to bring some politics in to Pride season, and important dialogue around how to support refugees and newcomers."

An Evening in Damascus will start at 7 p.m. Saturday at Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden (578 Carrall St.). Suggested donation of $20. Tickets at www.damascusvancouver.eventbrite.com.

Danny Ramadan, a Grand Marshall at this year's Vancouver Pride Parade, in Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden — where An Evening in Damascus will be held on Saturday, July 21.
COURTESY DAVID SALTER

## FOOD NOTES FABLE DINER BRINGS FAMILIAR FLAVOURS TO MAIN AND BROADWAY

**Erin Ireland**
Metro | Vancouver

After 18 months of planning and construction, Fable Kitchen's new sister restaurant, Fable Diner, is now open in Mount Pleasant at the corner of Main and Broadway.

Only two weeks old, the place is already packed, proving one of two things: Vancouverites follow great chefs, or the Fable team has scored yet another prime location (their first project sits on a bustling block of 4th Ave). I'm betting on the former. With his confident attitude and flavour-forward cooking, Chef Trevor Bird has made a name for himself in our city's extra-competitive restaurant industry.

At Fable Diner, Trevor's style of cooking is the only thing you might recognize from Fable Kitchen. He says the same care and techniques are used, but the food is more casual. Ingredient sources haven't changed either, despite the diner's slightly lower price point. Everything else (design, experience, ambiance) is new.

Food-wise, I came across zero dud dishes. There were, however, favourites: corn on the cob ($6), Asian green beans with crispy shallots ($8) and chickpea fritters ($6), all crafted with an Asian twist.

Inspired by a video of Koreans eating corn off a drill, Trevor loads his modern diner version with extra-creamy Japanese Kewpie mayo, chili lime butter, crunchy corn nuts and a pile of fresh cilantro.

Though listed under 'sides', the Asian green beans with crispy shallots were, hands down, the favourite, coated in a garlic and gingery, housemade hoisin sauce. The chickpea fritters were also pretty explosive thanks to nearly excessive dollops of curry mayo and house-pickled onions.

Come August, expect Fable Diner to open for brunch. For now, it's open daily 4-10 p.m.

A sampling of the casual dishes offered at Fable Diner.
ERIN IRELAND/FOR METRO

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# ‘Disordered eating’ rates troubling in LGBTQ youth

HEALTH

## Stats among heterosexuals have decreased, study finds

Gay, lesbian and bisexual youth are continuing to purge, fast or take diet pills to lose weight says a new study. DAVID MCNEW/GETTY IMAGES

Gay, lesbian and bisexual youth are continuing to purge, fast or take diet pills to lose weight while rates for such behaviour among heterosexuals have decreased, a University of British Columbia study says.

“Our study has found that it’s only getting worse for lesbian and bisexual girls,” said lead researcher Ryan Watson, a postdoctoral fellow at the university’s school of nursing.

The research involved 26,000 students in Massachusetts, but the results for the Grades 9 to 12 students are the same as an even larger and yet-to-be published British Columbia survey among students in Grades 7 to 12.

The Massachusetts study, based on data collected between 1999 and 2013, was published this week in the International Journal of Eating Disorders.

Watson said Massachusetts is one of the few states that since 1991 has asked youth about sexual orientation as part of its regular surveys on adolescents.

The study said that in 2013, lesbians were twice as likely to report purging and fasting than they were in 1999. For that year, the prevalence of purging among bisexual girls, at 33 per cent, was higher than for lesbians, at 22 per cent, but stayed nearly the same in 2013, when it jumped to 36 per cent for lesbians girls.

In comparison, eight per cent of heterosexual girls reported purging in 1999, but the rate went down to five per cent in 2013.

Heterosexual boys had the lowest rates of the behaviour, and it declined further over the years.

Watson said it’s not known why there’s such a disparity among the different groups of youth, but it’s clear that sexual minority kids need targeted programs.

He said the research suggests healthy eating and body-image programs that seem to be working for straight youth haven’t reached lesbian, gay and bisexual kids.

The students were asked about their weight loss behaviour over the last 30 days, and their “disordered eating” did not suggest they had an eating disorder but they could be at a high risk in the future, said University of B.C. nursing Prof. Elizabeth Saewyc, the study’s senior author.

She said better supports are needed for sexual minority youth, especially lesbians and bisexual girls when it comes to developing positive body image and healthy eating choices. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## IN BRIEF

**Man dies after collapsing on Grouse Grind trail**

A man has died after collapsing on a popular trail on North Vancouver’s Grouse Mountain. North Vancouver RCMP Corp. Richard de Jong says it happened at around 8 p.m. Wednesday night. He says the man in his 50s suffered a heart attack at the halfway point of the Grouse Grind trail. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Youth centre answers overcrowding claims**

The British Columbia government is pushing back against claims that a Burnaby youth detention centre where inmates rioted on Tuesday night is overcrowded. The Burnaby Youth Secure Custody Centre’s director of programs says in a statement the facility is fully staffed and only at about half capacity. Andrew Cronkhite is responding to the union representing correctional workers, which said staff had warned of “rising tensions” after a similar facility in Victoria closed and inmates were transferred. THE CANADIAN PRESS


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# Canadian elevators opening 'in a crisis'

TECHNOLOGY

## Conditions worsened by less and less maintenance

Every day of the year, Canadians across the country are finding themselves trapped in faulty elevators, while countless more are suffering through inconvenience and isolation because of elevators that are out of service — and the problem is worsening, an investigation has found.

Last year, for example, firefighters in Ontario responded to 4,461 calls to extricate people from elevators — more than a dozen a day — and double the number from 2001.

"I don't think we're heading toward a crisis, I believe we're already there," said Rob Isabelle, a mechanical engineer and elevator consultant to property managers and owners.

"If we look at the reliability of a large number of pieces of equipment, it's really the worst it's ever been."

Among cities, Toronto led the way last year with about 2,862 elevator-rescue calls to 911, but others also had their share of problems.

For example, Montreal firefighters responded to 1,532 such calls, Vancouver responders went to 428 calls, while Ottawa saw 314 in 2014.

Many calls involve rescuing more than one person. Others who find themselves stuck are freed without 911 involvement.

Insiders say the steep rise in problems is partly the result of more elevators — Ontario has seen a 10 per cent increase over the past five years. But the real culprits, they say, are aging equipment and structural issues within an industry dominated by four huge multinationals: Otis, Schindler, Kone and ThyssenKrupp.

> **We're into almost this downward spiral.**
> Rob Isabelle

When it comes to Canada's elevator market, those companies have been in a race to the bottom in their efforts to grab market share, Isabelle said.

Thirty years ago, he said, a technician would typically service about 35 to 45 elevators for about $1,000 per elevator a month. The maintenance contract included everything needed to keep the elevators humming — excluding extraordinary events such as flooding or vandalism.

Nowadays, he said, that same contract might be worth about $600 — with each technician responsible for 100 elevators.

"We're into almost this downward spiral," Isabelle says. "Service technicians are getting loaded up more and more, having less time to do preventive maintenance."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Learning to love boats again

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Najim Sheikh Asaad, 12, is eager to take a local boating course after his uncle almost died fleeing Syria by boat. His neighbour Maria Alsahen, 9, is still deciding if she'll go, not convinced yet it's safe. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

"Whenever they say 'boats,' I have a pain in my stomach," says nine-year-old Maria Alsahen, through a translator.

For kids like her who watched their family, friends and neighbours flee Syria in rickety boats and inflatable rafts, water has become an option only for the desperate.

But now, an Edmonton coach wants to help give these kids back the water.

Alsahen's family arrived in Edmonton on a plane from Jordan after fleeing Syria. Today she still lists off the images she's watched on her mother's phone like it's happening in front of her: Waves, tiny babies, a man kissing his crying wife.

"Boats are not safe," she says.

Enter Zak Mahmoudi.

Mahmoudi is the head coach of the Greater Edmonton Racing Canoe and Kayak Club. On Saturday, the club will bus about 50 Syrian kids and their parents out to Kirk Lake for a day of instruction and, Mahmoudi hopes, fun.

"I want to break that trauma of being scared of the water or seeing water as a threat," he says, pointing out that for many, this will be the first time they've used a boat for recreation.

The club is providing equipment and coaches, and a lot of the club's athletes will be on hand to help.

"They're going to be there, paddling with them, showing them the strokes, making them very comfortable," Mahmoudi says.

Alsahen isn't sure yet if she'll go as she's not yet convinced help will come if something happens. But her neighbour, Najim Sheikh Asaad, 12, is determined to learn.

"If it happens that I am in a situation where people are in the middle of the sea or drowning I want to know how to save my life," he says.

Asaad tells the story of his uncle, who escaped Syria on one of two boats travelling together.

The other boat sank. His uncle's boat managed to save a couple of people, but couldn't get to everyone.

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# Holding the Trump card

ANALYSIS

## The Donald is one mistake by Clinton away from presidency

A delegate holds up sign that reads "Make America One Again." on Thursday in Cleveland. GETTY IMAGES

It rocked with incompetence. It throbbed with hatred for Hillary Clinton. It caught fire and burned, burned, burned over this black hole of a candidate, Donald Trump.

And now, with the smouldering remains of the Republican National Convention done and dusted, only one thing remains.

It's time to be afraid.

No need yet for the full duck-and-cover. No need, either, to pore over every word of Trump's Thursday night finale in search of carved-in-stone tablature from Moses. He will say something else tomorrow. Or tonight. Or in 15 minutes.

But some degree of actual fear is appropriate now, given Trump's utter destruction of the Republican political sausage factory. The crucible of a national convention is meant to heal, unite, galvanize and thrust the candidate forth as standard-bearer for the party of Lincoln.

Instead, Donald Trump emerges as Donald Trump, with the party of Lincoln looking more like the party of clown car. And now he's in the home stretch to November, with the White House looking nearer than anyone imagined possible.

Ezra Klein, writing Thursday as editor-in-chief of Vox, put it this way: "I am, for the first time since I began covering American politics, genuinely afraid." The issue is not ideology, but character, wrote Klein — "his temperament, his impulsiveness, his basic human decency."

"Trump has shown us who he really is. He is a person who should not be president. That he is being brought this close to the presidency — that he is one major mistake by Hillary Clinton away from winning it — should scare us all. It certainly scares me."

One fact the Cleveland experience made abundantly clear: Trump's impulsiveness will not be bottled and capped by anyone. Trump gonna Trump, no matter what. Often with the attention span of a common housefly.

NATO allies cannot count on unconditional backing from Donald Trump's America without a better financial deal. Nor should America be in the business of holding the world's worst leaders to account on how they treat their citizens, rump said, because "When the world looks at how bad the United States is, and then we go and talk about civil liberties, I don't think we're a very good messenger."

Trump's words rocked three cornerstones of U.S. foreign policy. When his campaign manager denied the report, insisting his words had been taken out of context, the Times released a full transcript. The context made it even worse.

The now well-established pattern: When Trump is under the control of a teleprompter, a strong semblance of Republican ideology emerges. When he veers off-script, the language veers back to the same aggrieved Fortress America rhetoric.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAY 4

# Convention vendors mean cereal business

Vendors lining downtown Cleveland's streets as it hosts the Republican National Convention this week are doing brisk business selling the ubiquitous 'Make America Great Again' hats and 'Hillary for Prison 2016' T-shirts.

The more unique items for sale carry mostly crude and offensive messages — not "politically correct" in the language of Donald Trump and his supporters.

Two friends from New Jersey have bucked that trend with their Trump Flakes and Clinton Crunch cereal, a product they designed to appeal to everyone.

Darrin Maconi, a finance advisor, and Daniel Malafronte, a business student, put up their savings to manufacture a thousand boxes, hoping to profit off the marathon presidential campaign.

Many of the vendors here say they are true Trump supporters, not just opportunists making a quick buck, but Maconi and Malafonte aren't ready to reveal their own political affiliations.

"If you hang around until after our boxes are gone, we will give you an answer," Maconi said.

Darrin Maconi and Daniel Malafonte STEVEN GOETZ/FOR METRO

FLORIDA

# Man says police shot him with hands raised

A black therapist who was trying to calm an autistic man in the middle of the street says he was shot by police even though he had his hands in the air and repeatedly told them that no one was armed.

The moments before the shooting were recorded on cellphone video and show Charles Kinsey lying on the ground with his arms raised, talking to his patient and police throughout the standoff with officers, who appeared to have them surrounded.

**Charles Kinsey** is shown lying in the street before being hit by a bullet fired by a North Miami police officer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"As long as I've got my hands up, they're not going to shoot me. This is what I'm thinking. They're not going to shoot me," he told WSVN-TV from his hospital bed, where he was recovering from a gunshot wound to his leg. "Wow, was I wrong."

The shooting comes amid weeks of violence involving police. Five officers were killed in Dallas two weeks ago and three law enforcement officers were gunned down Sunday in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Before those shootings, a black man, Alton Sterling, 37, was fatally shot during a scuffle with two white officers at a convenience store. In Minnesota, 32-year-old Philando Castile, who was also black, was shot to death during a traffic stop.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Graham designed to survive a crash

EDUCATION

## Interactive sculpture part of road-safety campaign

Irene Kuan
Metro | Toronto

**Graham, an eye-catching interactive lifelike sculpture.** CONTRIBUTED

Meet Graham. His body can survive a catastrophic car crash, but this may be a face you wish you could forget.

As part of a campaign on road safety, the Transport Accident Commission of Australia introduced a rather eye-catching interactive lifelike sculpture dubbed 'Graham,' designed with a face and body that would help him survive a crash.

"Graham is an educational tool that will serve the community for years to come as a reminder of why we need to develop a safer road system that will protect us when things go wrong," said Joe Calafiore, CEO of TAC in a press release.

The sculpture was created by a team consisting of a trauma surgeon, a crash investigation expert and a Melbourne-based artist.

Graham has a thick, fatty, flat face, flat nose and no neck. This is to prevent whiplash, abrasions and to absorb any impact to the head and face from a windshield, steering wheel or dashboard in a collision.

As for his torso, the team designed him with stronger ribs with airbag-like padding to further protect vital internal organs.

**The Modobag** is a motorized piece of luggage designed to carry a person weighing up to 260 pounds for 13 kilometres. CONTRIBUTED

TRAVEL

# Rideable suitcase zipping in

The road warrior might have a new chariot. A new Indiegogo campaign has launched for the Modobag, a motorized piece of smart luggage on which travellers can ride.

The slick video for the product shows travellers entering an airport, having a seat on the square bag, then zipping through the terminal — never having to run to catch a flight.

Created by Kevin O'Donnell, a Chicago-based entrepreneur and restaurateur, Modobag claims a top speed of 13 kilometres an hour and is designed to carry a person who weighs up to 260 pounds as far as 13 kilometres.

But it won't be a cheap ride for the burgeoning new class of potential Samsonite riders (who might just cause baggage handlers to become obsolete).

The Modobag will eventually have a price of $1,295 US. For now, the company is seeking $50,000 US in crowdfunding to go into full production — and has already reached half that goal.

The company plans on delivering the Modobag in January 2017.

O'Donnell said unlike hoverboards, those battery-powered scooters banned by most airlines because of their proclivity for catching on fire, the Modobag is Transportation Security Association (TSA), Federal Aviation Association (FAA) and International Air Transport Association (IATA) compliant.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TURKEY

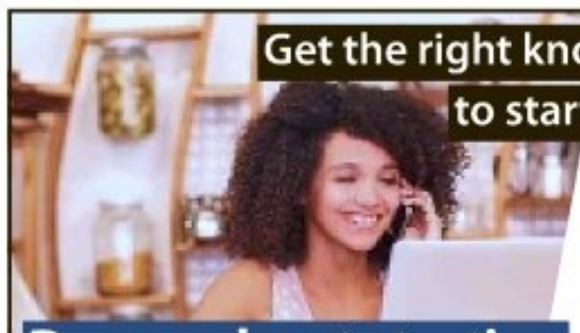
# Erdogan given more power after failed military coup

Turkey will be able to extend detention times for suspects and issue decrees without parliamentary approval under a three-month state of emergency approved Thursday by lawmakers following last week's attempted military coup.

Parliament voted 346-115 to approve the national state of emergency, which gives sweeping new powers to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who had been accused of autocratic conduct even before this week's crackdown on alleged opponents. Erdogan has said the state of emergency will counter threats to Turkish democracy.

Even without the emergency measures, his government has already imposed a crackdown that has included mass arrests, mass firings and the closure of hundreds of schools. Erdogan said the new powers would allow the government to rid the military of the "virus" of subversion, blaming the coup attempt on a U.S.-based Muslim cleric, Fethullah Gulen. The cleric has denied any knowledge of the attempted coup.

On Thursday, thousands of people again gathered at the bridge to protest the failed coup. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**DECODED** by Genna Buck

# THE END IS (*probably not*) NIGH

**Something's going to finish off our species someday.** And it will probably be before the sun swallows our planet in a few billion years. Here are four leading apocalyptic options, according to science, and the calendar dates we had really close calls.

## GEOMAGNETIC STORM

**Closest call**
A solar storm seared a transformer in New Jersey, knocking out power to six million people in Quebec.

**What it is** A large burst of radiation and plasma spiking out from the surface of the sun. It could take out electrical transformers and plunge entire continents into darkness for months — time for chaos to set in.

**What we can do**
Shut down transformers pre-emptively, or fortify the electric grid with series capacitors that can block a blast of solar wind.

## PANDEMIC

**Closest call** A pandemic of bubonic plague, the Black Death, wiped out between a third and 60 per cent of Europe's population.

**What we can do**
Watch carefully for new diseases (that's the WHO's job), quickly isolate the sick, make a vaccine as quickly as possible and hope for the best.

**What it is** A global outbreak of a devastating disease, especially a highly contagious one — perhaps something airborne like the flu — that most of the population isn't immune to.

## SPACE ROCK

**Closest call** A massive meteorite (or possibly comet) exploded over barely-populated Eastern Siberia, flattening 80 million trees over 2,000 square km.

**What it is** The impact of a comet or meteorite more than a kilometre wide could destroy land, unleash repeated earthquakes and tsunamis, and toss up debris that blocks the sun.

**What we can do**
Monitor the skies and, if an object seems headed our way, knock it off course with a spaceship, alter its path with a satellite, or smash it with nukes.

## SUPERVOLCANO

**Closest call** Mount Toba, in Indonesia, spewed 2,800 cubic km of magma and plunged the Earth into an ice age. Perhaps fewer than 10,000 people survived worldwide.

**What we can do**
Find a way to grow food. Mushrooms thrive in a dark, cool environment, and they like to colonize dead trees.

**What it is** Around 20 ticking time bombs lurk on Earth: Supervolcanoes that could obliterate huge tracts of land and blanket the planet in ash, spurring all-day darkness and "volcanic winter," wiping out vegetation and crops.

GRAPHICS: ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO; RESEARCH SOURCES INCLUDE JULIA ROSEN/SCIENCE MAGAZINE

**CITIZEN SCIENTIST** by Genna Buck

# How do I protect myself from pesticides?

**Strawberries are on the Dirty Dozen list of produce with the most pesticides. Should I buy organic? — Irene, Toronto**

I have good news for your wallet, Irene! Organic produce is no safer than the conventional kind.

The "Dirty Dozen" list is published by the official-sounding but unscientific Environmental Working Group (EWG).

It's based on a wilfully amateurish reading of the meticulous data U.S. regulators collect every year about pesticide residues on fruits and vegetables, both imported and domestic.

Not all crops are monitored every year, only a sample based in part on the items that have raised the most concerns.

So the idea that it's possible to make a comprehensive guide to the "dirtiest" and "cleanest" produce based on government data is null and void based on that fact alone.

But there's more. Pesticides include hundreds of very different chemicals that pose different kinds of risks. None are inherently bad: The dose makes the poison.

Here's how the FDA decides how much pesticide on strawberries is OK: They take the best available animal and human studies and estimate the maximum daily dose that, over your 70-year life, will not cause any ill effects. Then they divide that by a safety factor, usually 100.

Only a handful of crops come anywhere near that level. Typically about half have no detectable pesticide residues at all.

Your question hits one of the most difficult parts of science communication: It's incredibly hard to refute nonsense.

Studies have shown the EWG's bonkers methodology bears little relationship with reality. But without technical knowledge, it looks pretty sound.

The science on fruits and vegetables is settled. They're good for you, especially fresh ones. You need a variety. You need to wash them. And they fight cancer!

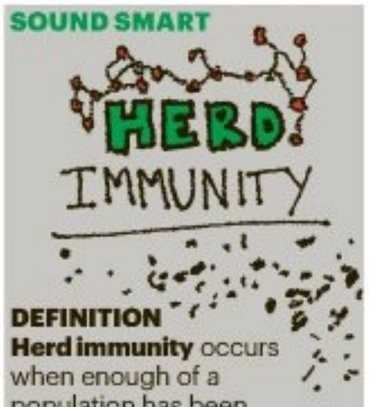
**Science Question?**
**Tweet @genna_buck**

**FINDINGS**
**Your week in science**

**STRONG STUDY**
McMaster University researchers are flipping long-standing fitness advice on its head. They found lifting lighter weights many times builds just as much muscle as fewer reps with heavier weights. What matters is that your muscles are exhausted.

**BIRD BAROMETER**
A study of pigeons' blood in NYC shows birds' lead levels are a good proxy for lead levels in children. Pigeons could be a good way to track exposure: They spend most of their lives within a few blocks and breathe the same air and eat the same food as people. And they don't cry when they're poked with a needle.

**SOUND SMART**




**DEFINITION**
**Herd immunity** occurs when enough of a population has been exposed to, or vaccinated against, a contagious disease that the spread slows down or stops.

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Deborah's immune disorder means she can't be vaccinated against lizard pox. But she'll be OK, because all of us are immunized and **herd immunity** protects her.

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# Abrams keeps Enterprise afloat

IN FOCUS

## Puts characters front and centre in Star Trek franchise

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Audiences still care about the characters at the core of the Star Trek saga, including Capt. James T. Kirk. CONTRIBUTED

Seven years ago director J.J. Abrams, the brains behind hit TV shows like Lost and movies like Star Wars: The Force Awakens, thought there was still some uncharted life to be found in the Star Trek universe.

This weekend, the third film in his new generation of movies, Star Trek Beyond, puts phasers on stun. Directed by Fast & Furious director Justin Lin it continues Abrams' mission to seek out new cinematic life and civilizations.

After five television series, 10 movies, countless books, comics and video games, a stage version and even an Ice Capades style show, Abrams re-launched the big screen Trek franchise. Simply called Star Trek, he took audiences where no man (or director) had gone before, back to the very beginning of the story before James Tiberius Kirk bore an uncanny resemblance to T.J. Hooker.

In this prequel to the original series Kirk (Chris Pine) and Spock (Zachary Quinto) are assigned to the maiden voyage of the most advanced starship ever created, the U.S.S. Enterprise under Captain Christopher Pike (Bruce Greenwood).

Star Trek was one of the great popcorn movies of 2009. Notice I didn't say sci-fi movie. Star Trek is a lot of things but despite all the talk of warp speed, black holes and time travel, it can't be strictly classified as science fiction. It's a character-based space serial more concerned with the burgeoning relationship between Spock and Kirk than with photon thrusters.

Star Trek: Into Darkness (2013) is a sequel AND a prequel (something so illogical Spock would never approve) that gets underway when an act of terror robs Kirk of a close friend. Determined to bring the perpetrator to justice the reckless Starfleet captain takes the Enterprise and crew to a war zone populated by Klingons and one brilliant and ruthless genetically engineered adversary (Benedict Cumberbatch). To finish his mission he must make difficult decisions.

Abrams finds a balance of old (Kirk, Spock et al) and new (spacesuits are redesigned, tech is different and there are younger characters) to satisfy hard-core Trekkers and attract tenderfoot Trekkies. For fans there are in-jokes like Kirk telling two expendable members of the landing team to "lose the red shirts."

At the beginning of Star Trek Beyond, Kirk's life on board the U.S.S. Enterprise has become a grind. He's three years into a five-year mission and trying to find meaning in his mission. "It can be hard to feel grounded when even gravity isn't real."

Lin, taking over for Abrams, does his best to spice things up for the good captain. The director, famous for his Fast & Furious films, knows there is nothing like a wild alien attack to snap James T. out of his funk. Expect more hi-fly action than sci-fi intrigue.

Star Trek Beyond producer Abrams admits he "didn't love Kirk and Spock when I began this journey, but I love them now." It seems fans love his interpretation of the characters as well.

Trekkers have embraced the new movies but Abrams knows the Star Trek universe is so vast it's impossible to please everyone.

So he caters to the moviegoer "who just wants to be entertained, understand, and care about the world and the characters." As Spock might say, "Sounds logical to me."

### MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

| | |
|---|---|
| Star Trek Beyond | ★★★ |
| Ice Age: Collision Course | ★★ |
| Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie | ★★ |
| Lights Out | ★★ |

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

# 4 FABULOUS REASONS TO CATCH UP WITH PATSY AND EDDY AGAIN

Those missing '90s Brit TV duo of Absolutely Fabulous stars Jennifer Saunders (Edina "Eddy" Monsoon) and Joanna Lumley (Patsy Stone) will be over the moon to have these two boozy, chain-smoking, label-obsessed broads back in their lives as they hit the big screen. Here's a sneak peak of what's in store for our two favourite sweetie darlings. TORSTART NEWS SERVICE

Eddy Monsoon and Patsy Stone get their big screen close up with Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie. CONTRIBUTED

## 1 Droopy but fine diversion

The script for their big-screen debut (penned by series creator Saunders) hangs on a plot as flimsy as a supermodel's bikini. And the second half gets quite droopy. But these vain and fickle gals, enthusiastic early adopters of trainwreck comedy and masters of all manner of walks, stumbles and crawls of shame, make a for a fine summer diversion.

## 2 Lulu, Baby and booze

The only thing drying out or up around Eddy is her client list. She's barely hanging on to '60s belter Lulu (who shows her comic skills here), "Baby Spice" Emma Bunton and a nameless "prestige" vodka. Worse, nobody is interested in publishing her tell-all book from the PR trenches. With her credit cards so deep in the red they're throbbing, Eddy is shocked to find she has no more of the baffling stuff Patsy calls "hand money."

## 3 Kate Moss gets messy

A glam fashion industry party not only provides a chance for desperate Eddy to zero in on the suddenly publicist-free model Kate Moss, it also gives us the real story on how Jon Hamm lost his virginity. Curious? Cherchez Patsy, darling. Moss ends in the Thames (pushed, slipped, who knows?) and Eddy gets the blame, sending the duo scurrying off to Cannes to hide out and try to score a sugar daddy in Patsy's "old hunting-ground."

## 4 Cameos and credibility

How far will Patsy go to fund their escapade? Put it like this: Lumley looks credibly, creepily sexy as a dude. Stuffed with cameos and returning original series cast, bizarre fashions and 1950s-vintage TV slapstick, along with a surprisingly tender moment of self refection from Eddy, Absolutely Fabulous isn't great art but it is high camp, darling.

THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

# As soon as I walked out of the building I was like 'WTF did I just do?

Three years ago, when Canadian director Stephen Dunn was just 24 years old, he landed a meeting with Rhombus Media and left them a treatment for his first feature film.

He returned a week later to the production office — unannounced, and expecting, perhaps naively, that they'd already read it — and dropped off eight homemade red velvet cupcakes that spelled out "Thanks for reading my treatment for Closet Monster."

"As soon as I walked out of the building I was like 'WTF did I just do? They're going to think I'm insane!'" Dunn recently shared on social media. "And of course, to no surprise, I didn't hear from them for three months. I was mortified. I assumed my career was over."

Flash-forward to TIFF 2015 when Closet Monster, a coming-of-age story about Oscar, a gay East Coast teenager who lives with his dad — who tends towards macho, and homophobic — and can't wait to become a special effects makeup artist anywhere other than Newfoundland, won the Best Canadian Feature Film, and to today, when the film hits theatres in wide release across the country.

Flashback to February 2016 when I saw Closet Monster three times in 48 hours.

I was moderating question-and-answer sessions after screenings between the audience and the film's star, Connor Jessup, who is 21, at the Kingston Film Festival.

The audience wanted to know about the film's locations (St. John's, NL, and Fogo Island, where the film concludes); whether the film was based on true events (they are fictionalized versions of Dunn's own life); and Isabella Rossellini, who provides the voice of Buffy, Oscar's pet hamster. (Yes, there's some magic realism, and it is used to great effect, especially during a Cronenbergian-like crescendo of a scene between father and son.)

I wanted to know if the funny parts were scripted (Mary Walsh has a small-but-meaningful part as Oscar's boss at a hardware store); if Dunn gave Jessup any preparatory material (Anne Carson's Autobiography of Red); and any details Jessup could share about a particularly beautiful scene in Oscar's treehouse, one that puts all those MTV Best Kiss Awards to shame. (Turns out, it's Jessup's favourite.)

Quietly, I was in awe of Dunn and Jessup, two 20-somethings — I can't remember what I was doing at their ages: watching Melrose Place? Failing first-year Calculus? — seemingly confident in making art. Jessup is so magnetic as Oscar that it's hard to take your eyes off him. In person, he's articulate, kind, and engaged. And Dunn managed to make a well-structured (it clocks in at exactly 90 minutes), thoughtful and imaginative film that isn't just about a teenager struggling with his sexual identity. It's about a messy family, the pangs of first loves, and growing up. And, like true existence, nothing is neatly bow-tied at the end.

"To me, that is one thing I like about the movie, that it shows how everyone struggles with identity at that age, no matter your sexuality. Everyone struggles with their family, their community, with where they are, who they are, who they want to be," Jessup told Entertainment Weekly. "If you can't relate to that on a fundamental level, then I don't know who you are."

Obviously the producers agree. On the first day of Closet Monster's theatrical release here in Toronto, Dunn woke up to find a dozen red velvet cupcakes on his doorstep.

**Jessica Allen** is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

# Fans' petition ensures we will all get another look, this time a little longer

TV MOVIE

## LGBTQ series returns with a feature-length final instalment

When the critically praised HBO series Looking was cancelled last year after just two seasons, it was a crushing blow to the LGBTQ community.

After all, it was the first high-profile show to focus on gay men since Showtime's Queer As Folk ended in 2005.

Fans started online petitions to bring the show back, and they'll soon get their wish. Sort of.

On Saturday, Looking: The Movie will air on HBO Canada, providing some closure to fans of the series.

> **We all loved the show and we could have gone on for years.**
> Murray Bartlett

"I think the interesting thing was to see these characters in the forefront," says Frankie Alvarez, who plays Agustin Lanuez, about the appeal of Looking.

"Traditionally in the past, LGBT characters have been supporting characters and they've been dealing with being victimized and marginalization.

"And what's really beautiful about this series is they're out and they are who they are and their gayness is just one aspect of their lives.

"They're dealing with relationships, with their friendships, and career fluctuations, ups and downs, and I think that was quietly revolutionary."

The film is set about nine months after the Season 2 finale and finds Jonathan Groff's lead character, videogame designer Patrick, returning to San Francisco for the wedding of Agustin and Eddie (Daniel Franzese).

While there, he reunites with the whole crew, which also includes Murray Bartlett as Patrick's friend Dom Basaluzzo, who works in the restaurant industry.

The cast members say they learned the show would be wrapped up in the form of a movie at the same time they heard the series was being cancelled after low ratings.

"It's sad, obviously," says Bartlett. "We all loved the show and we could have gone on for years, as far as we're concerned.

"But it is a lovely way to wrap up a show, actually, particularly a half-hour show. Because in the movie you get to live with these characters in a longer arc, like an hour and a half or whatever the film is, so you get to really be with them and develop stories in a longer format, which is really fantastic."

Jonathan Groff, left to right, Murray Bartlett, Frankie J. Alvarez are shown in HBO's Looking: The Movie. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

Series director/executive producer Andrew Haigh also helmed the movie and co-wrote with creator Michael Lannan. "What's nice about the closure of the film is that there is a kind of resolution but it's still open-ended," says Alvarez.

"So that if we were ever to be blessed with another opportunity in the coming years, that we could still touch on these guys' lives."

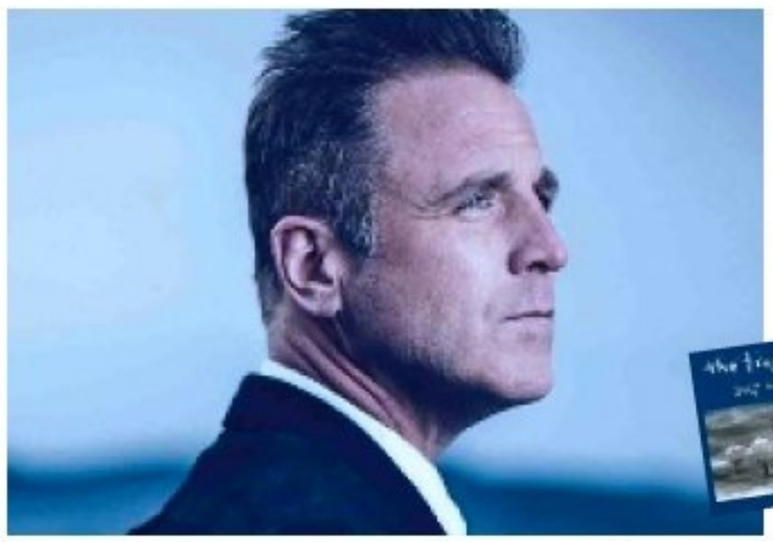
That is, if the fans want it.

"It's nice that the fans have a say and a power," he adds. "If enough people speak up and voice what they want, these networks are listening and hopefully we can be on the positive end of that request."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

# DREAM SET MUSICIANS' HIP PICKS

With the Tragically Hip's much-anticipated Man Machine Poem tour kicking off Friday in Victoria, B.C., many longtime Hip aficionados are imagining a dream set list constructed from the band's vast catalogue of classic Canadian songs. Before the band steps on stage, some musicians offered their picks for songs they'd most like to hear and why they resonate. THE CANADIAN PRESS



### Sean McCann, former Great Big Sea guitarist: Scared

"The song for me is a dissertation on the nature of fear itself and where it ultimately comes from — within. I have lived through much and while this song doesn't let anyone off the hook, I always take comfort in its frank analytical approach. We have nothing to fear but our selves and the sooner we face that truth, the quicker we will all be able to move forward into real freedom."

### K-os: Ahead by a Century

"That's my song. The whole video, that guitar. That everything. I remember sitting on the floor watching it when it came on MuchMusic like, 'This is the best thing ever.' (Downie) was the first person I listened to where I was like, 'This dude has something to say.' That's always why I've wanted to be a part of pop culture — to say something."

### Raine Maida of Our Lady Peace: Grace, Too

"In 2004, I travelled to Darfur with War Child (an organization that works with children in war zones). We were provided housing in a United Nations shack. It was three of us and two UN personnel who were stationed there to decide whether the unspeakable sadness in Darfur was in fact genocide or not. Not long after I returned from Sudan I came across an article on Grace, Too. The journalist wrote that Gord described the song as being about the UN and the complexities surrounding this controversial entity. This blew my mind and I immediately began re-evaluating the song, trying to decipher the lyrics and apply my personal experience - I'd witnessed the UN ego and power first hand.

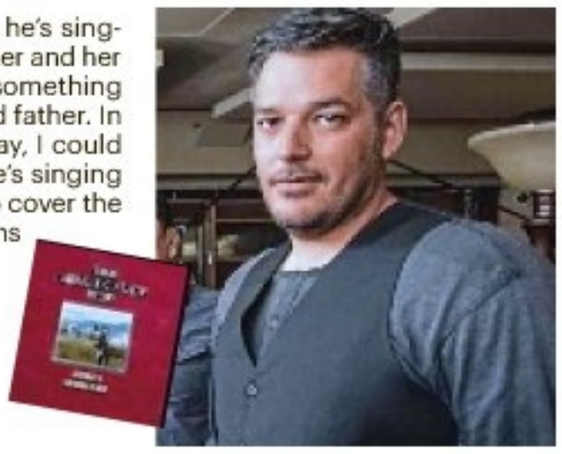
"His lyric about 'When the appearance of conflict meets the appearance of force' was now the perfect metaphor for the incredible circumstance and authority that came together there. I've not always been forthright with journalists as far as the true meaning behind songs I've written and I wouldn't be surprised if Gord was trying to throw the journalist off his lyrical scent. Regardless, 'Grace Too,' has a strength and weight that feels beyond this world."

### Ron Sexsmith: Ahead by a Century

"As a fan of melody, I've always loved Ahead By A Century. I don't claim to know exactly what it's about but it reminds me of childhood and of things being predestined in a similar way that the song Comfortably Numb by Pink Floyd does. Endlessly thought provoking."

### Adrian Sutherland of Midnight Shine: Fiddler's Green

"It seems to me he's singing about a mother and her son longing for something — a husband and father. In some strange way, I could relate to what he's singing about. (I used) to cover the tune many moons ago."



POLITICS

# Be careful with anthem advises Trudeau

Whether it's an off-the-wall rendition or changing the lyrics, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has a message for people seeking to change the national anthem: be careful.

Trudeau says anthems are important and should only be changed with care and proper process.

He pointed to the process underway in Parliament now to change the lyrics of O Canada from "in all thy sons command" to "in all of us command."

He told Global News Thursday artists need to be careful when they try to express themselves through a piece that's so cherished and symbolically important for Canadians.

> **I think artists need to be very, very careful**
> Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Trudeau had been asked about the recent controversy involving a Tenors member who altered the lyrics to O Canada prior to the Major League Baseball all-star game.

Remigio Pereira has since apologized for changing the verse "With glowing hearts we see thee rise, the True North strong and free," to "We're all brothers and sisters, all lives matter to the great."

"I think people, whether it's a particularly off-the-wall rendition of it, or changing the words of it, I think artists need to be very, very careful when they try to express themselves through a piece that is so cherished and symbolically important for Canadians," Trudeau said.

Efforts to formally change O Canada can be controversial.

The bill to do so was put forward by Liberal MP Mauril Belanger, who currently has Lou Gehrig's disease.

His deteriorating condition spurred efforts to fast-track the legislation through the House of Commons, but the Opposition Conservatives say there should be more public consultation.

The bill is currently before the Senate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## MUSIC BRIEF

### Fans get one last crack at Hip tickets with lottery

Fans of the Tragically Hip still hoping to see the band on their upcoming tour could score tickets through a newly announced lottery.

For each date on the Man Machine Poem tour, there will be an opportunity to buy tickets on the day of the show. Fifty winners will be selected from each show's lottery, and those people will each be able to purchase two tickets. The cutoff for lottery entry is 11 a.m. local time on the day of the show, and winners will be notified by email by 1 p.m. that day. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## CORRECTION

The byline on the Wednesday, July 20, story on women in the craft brewing industry was inadvertently omitted. The article was written by Jennifer Foden.

# Showing Pride

JENNIFER GAUTHIER

INSIDE: 13th annual Dyke March – Davie Street party – Plaza named for local activist – Your guide to terminology

THIS SPECIAL REPORT WAS CREATED BY CONTENT SOLUTIONS, INDEPENDENT OF METRO EDITORIAL.

This year's Vancouver Pride parade, one of the largest in the world, will start at noon on Sunday, July 31, and spectators can expect a feast for the senses. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# A parade to be proud of

BETTER TOGETHER

## Acceptance and inclusivity goal for parade and spectators

**Stephanie Orford**

In Vancouver, inclusivity and LGBTQ2+ rights are a big deal. Vancouver's Pride Parade is one of the biggest in the world, and the largest parade in Western Canada.

This year's will be starting on Sunday, July 31, at noon sharp from the intersection of Robson and Thurlow streets downtown. From there, it will wind down Robson, turning down Denman Street, and ending at Sunset Beach on English Bay.

To say the parade is a major event is an understatement. Now in its 38th year, it attracts about 650,000 spectators.

One hundred twenty-eight floats will be joining this year's lineup. There were so many groups that applied to join the parade this year the Vancouver Pride Society had to turn people away because there just wasn't enough room, says Kieran Burgess, executive director of the Vancouver Pride Society.

"We've got a record numbers of entries," he says.

On what floats to expect, Burgess won't name names — it's a surprise. However, visitors can expect a wide spectrum of groups to be joining the celebration, including community groups and nonprofit organizations, sports teams, charities, student groups, media organizations, postsecondary institutions, political parties, the fire brigade and other public services. TD Bank, the presenting partner, will also be hosting a large contingent.

Among the many revelers at this year's parade, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson will be marching. Trudeau will be representing the government of Canada, not just the Liberal Party, Burgess points out.

"He's taking a day off his vacation to come to the parade," says Burgess. Trudeau has marched in the Vancouver Pride Parade for the last two years, but this will be his first as prime minister, and the first time a Canadian prime minister has marched in the Vancouver Pride Parade.

This year's Pride theme is "better together," an idea that many of the parade participants will interpret in their floats and costumes.

Visitors can expect a feast for the senses.

"Participants will hand out swag, play music, there will be drag queens galore. There's everything, really. The whole bit," says Burgess.

But it's not just about the floats. The Pride Parade is equally about the spectators. A sense of acceptance and inclusivity is crucial to making the Pride Parade the fun and open event it's known as.

By and large, the people who come to watch and partake in the Pride Parade are very respectful, says Burgess.

"We're pretty proud we have a well-behaved crowd that takes care of each other," he says. "The crowd includes families of all kinds and people of all ages."

The event also puts major emphasis on accessibility, he explains.

"We're all about inclusion and safe spaces. That's where the pride organization began."

The parade's accessibility program will provide accessible viewing areas along the route, provided in partnership with YVR Airport, for people who are differently abled. These will include interpreters for deaf and blind people, and wheelchair accessibility.

At this year's Vancouver Pride Parade, there's something for everyone.

### THE VANCOUVER PRIDE KICK-OFF

On Monday, July 25, at 11:30 a.m. at the new Jim Deva Plaza at Bute and Davie streets, Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson will proclaim the start of Vancouver Pride Week.

It's a tradition the mayor's office, city council and the Vancouver Pride Society partake in every year to kick off an important symbolic event in the city — the open acceptance of people of every gender and sexual orientation in Vancouver. The event opens the celebration of diversity that is Pride Week, a series of events including fundraisers, runs and parades held throughout the city.

"It's an important day," says Kieran Burgess, managing director of the Vancouver Pride Society.

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## Trans Two Spirit Genderqueer Intersex March

**On Friday, July 29, trans, genderqueer, two-spirit and intersex individuals and their allies will be making some noise, celebrating their identities and protesting against current and past injustices.**

**The march and protest will start at 5:30 p.m. at Clark Park, located at E 14th and Commercial Drive. Participants will march from there, down the Drive, turning east on Grant Street and ending at Victoria Park for speeches and a community celebration of gender diversity.**

TEXT BY STEPHANIE ORFORD; PHOTO BY JENNIFER GAUTHIER

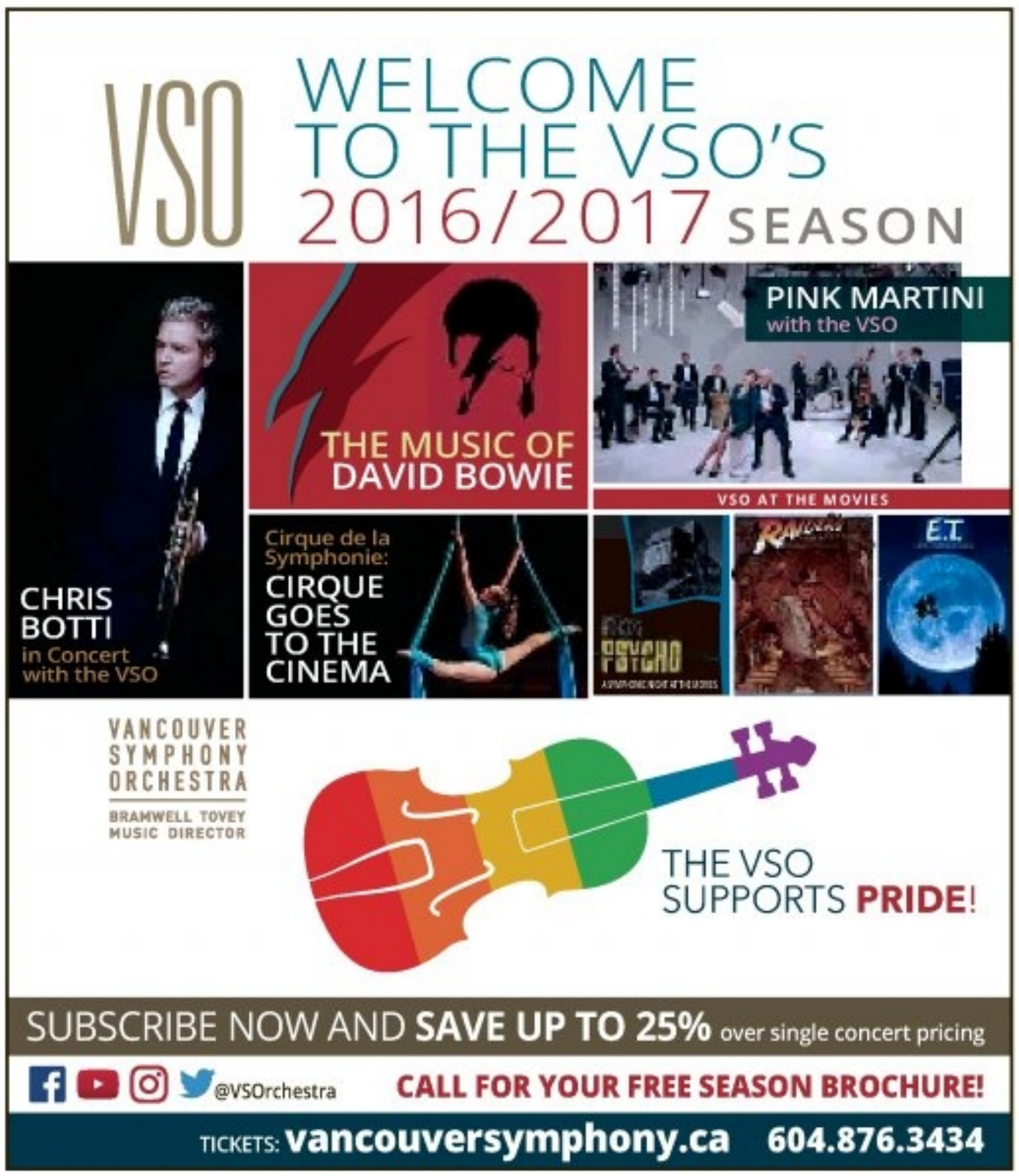
## The Vancouver Dyke March

**If you're looking for a more low-key way to show your solidarity with Vancouver's LGBTQ2+ community, or you're just looking to have a great time, the Vancouver Dyke March and Festival is a family-oriented celebration to put on your calendar.**

**The event, now in its 13th year, will be held on Saturday, July 30, starting at 11:30 a.m. at McSpadden Park near Commercial Drive. From there the crowd will make its way to Grandview Park for an outdoor celebration with games and performances by local artists.**

**It's a relaxed celebration for queer women, their allies and the whole community.**

TEXT BY STEPHANIE ORFORD; PHOTO COURTESY OF VANCOUVER PRIDE SOCIETY



# Hit up the Davie Street Party

GAY VILLAGE

## West End hosts all ages celebration including a silent disco

**Stephanie Orford**

If you're looking for a place to mingle, people watch, dance, party and celebrate Vancouver's diversity of sexual orientations and identities, the Davie Street Party is the place.

One of the biggest events at Pride, the Davie Street Party on Friday, July 29 at 6 p.m. will shut down the streets between Burrard and Jervis, opening up Davie Street for local businesses, DJs and people from all over Vancouver.

The Davie Street Party started in 2007 as a party celebrating Vancouver Pride in the West End.

"The whole idea was to have a celebration in the gay village, and that's how it began," says Kieran Burgess, managing director of the Vancouver Pride Society. "It used to be beer gardens on the street and we've worked really hard to open it up."

The West End Business Improvement Association (BIA) used to have a separate party, but now it and the Davie Street Party are amalgamated thanks to a long-term partnership between Vancouver Pride and the West End BIA.

"In the past we couldn't close the street. This year we've managed to close the street which is cool because it's all one big venue. You used to have to cross the traffic," says Burgess.

The party is open to everyone of all ages.

"We encourage families to come down," says Kieran Burgess of Vancouver Pride. Last year the event was the first open liquor event in downtown Vancouver, and this year's event has a capacity of 9,000.

Alcoholic beverages available just for those over 19 years old who purchase a special wristband.

"We're going cashless," says Burgess. "You get a wristband with a chip that you can top up for the night, and use it to buy drinks all night like you would a tap credit card."

This is the first time the wrist-band system, which is also used at music festivals including Coachella, will be used in Vancouver.

Davie Street businesses are a major part of the event.

"We work hard with the local business to activate and get involved," says Burgess.

It's a great time for business to get out there, meet people on the street and get involved in the community, says Burgess.

Some businesses, such as Gurkha Himalayan Kitchen, will even be bringing their businesses into the street for the night. Other businesses will be putting out red carpets or handing out freebies.

As for the dance party, five of Davie's biggest bars and nightclubs are helping run the event, so you know it's going to be good. Guests can expect contributions from Davie mainstays Celebrities, The Fountainhead, The Pumpjack, Junction, XY, and 1181.

Visitors can also partake in the Fido Silent Disco — a set of two DJs that dancers can listen to with headphones. Each person will hear the DJs music in their own headphones, allowing the crowd of dancers to be listening to two different DJs spinning different tracks at once.

The Celebrities Main Stage will be located in front of Celebrities.

The Community Stage at the historic rainbow crosswalks at Bute and Davie streets will feature more kid-friendly performers earlier in the day with performances by local artists and musicians, says Burgess. As part of the show, guests can watch the annual Wimple-In ceremony, performed by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Davie Street will be flooded not just with people and businesses, but with roaming performers and interactive art pieces for visitors to explore.

This year the Vancouver Pride Society has introduced the Pride Patrol, a group of volunteers who will be available to help partiers stay safe. The Pride Society has also organized chill-out spaces and free water for everyone to enjoy.

**The Davie Street Party includes a wristband system for those over 19 who want to buy drinks.** VANCOUVER PRIDE SOCIETY

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## Supporting the future of equality in Canada

The Pride movement may be strong, but it still needs advocates.

In Vancouver, the LOUD Foundation is key to supporting those advocates in their growth and development. The Vancouver Pride Society has partnered with the organization to provide youth scholarships called the Pride Legacy Awards.

Earlier this year, the organizations awarded three scholarships of $2,000 each to young people in the LGBTQ2+ community who are looking to expand their education and do work in their community.

The goal? Keep changing the world to increase equality of LGBTQ2+ people in Canada and the world. TEXT BY STEPHANIE ORFORD; PHOTO BY JENNIFER GAUTHIER

## The Pride Run & Walk + Picnic

Health and wellness are essential aspects of Pride Week, and there's no better way to celebrate them than by putting on your running gear and heading to False Creek Seawall for a run on a gorgeous July day.

On Saturday, July 24, starting at 9 a.m. at Sunset Beach, you can participate in the Pride Run & Walk + Picnic. It's a great way to show your support and have fun with your family and friends.

Hosted by the Frontrunners Vancouver and the Vancouver Pride Society, the 5-km route will include costumes, awards and disco water stations.

After participants finish their run or walk, they can indulge in a picnic at Sunset Beach. A light breakfast will be donated by Urban Fare and participants can experience games, a drag race and sports.

All proceeds from the event will benefit Pride Youth Scholarships.

For more information and to register, please visit: vancouverfrontrunners.org or vancouverpride.ca. TEXT BY STEPHANIE ORFORD; PHOTO BY TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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# Check out the new Jim Deva Plaza

DAVIE VILLAGE

## Public space named for prominent local activist

**Stephanie Orford**

Vancouver's Davie Village has become a hub for the city's LGBTQ2+ communities, not just at Pride, but year-round.

The new Jim Deva Plaza will open on July 28, part of a multi-year plan designed to preserve the neighbourhood's character and history and create more public spaces for the community.

The $2.3 million public space will be located on the south side of the intersection of Davie and Bute Street, adjacent to the iconic rainbow crosswalks.

The paint may still be drying in time for Pride. The plaza pavement was just painted with a "deconstructed rainbow" pattern that extends the rainbow crosswalks into the public space.

"It's a boutique public space," explains Stephen Regan, executive director of the West End Business Improvement Association. "Eventually it's going to have catenary lighting, suspended above the plaza, and some permanent seating."

The plaza is named after Jim Deva, a prominent public activist who passed away suddenly in 2014. Deva was co-owner of Davie bookshop Little Sister's Book and Art Emporium, which famously took their anti-censorship case to the Supreme Court and won after shipments of LGBTQ2+-focused books destined for the shop were held at the Canada-U.S. border.

Deva was a prominent local activist who spoke out against censorship and anti-gay violence.

The plaza will feature a piece of public art, inspired by Jim Deva and his legacy and commissioned by the City of Vancouver.

The plaza oversight committee is made up of the West End BIA and various community groups, all working toward creating inclusive, vibrant programming for the space so that the whole neighbourhood can share it.

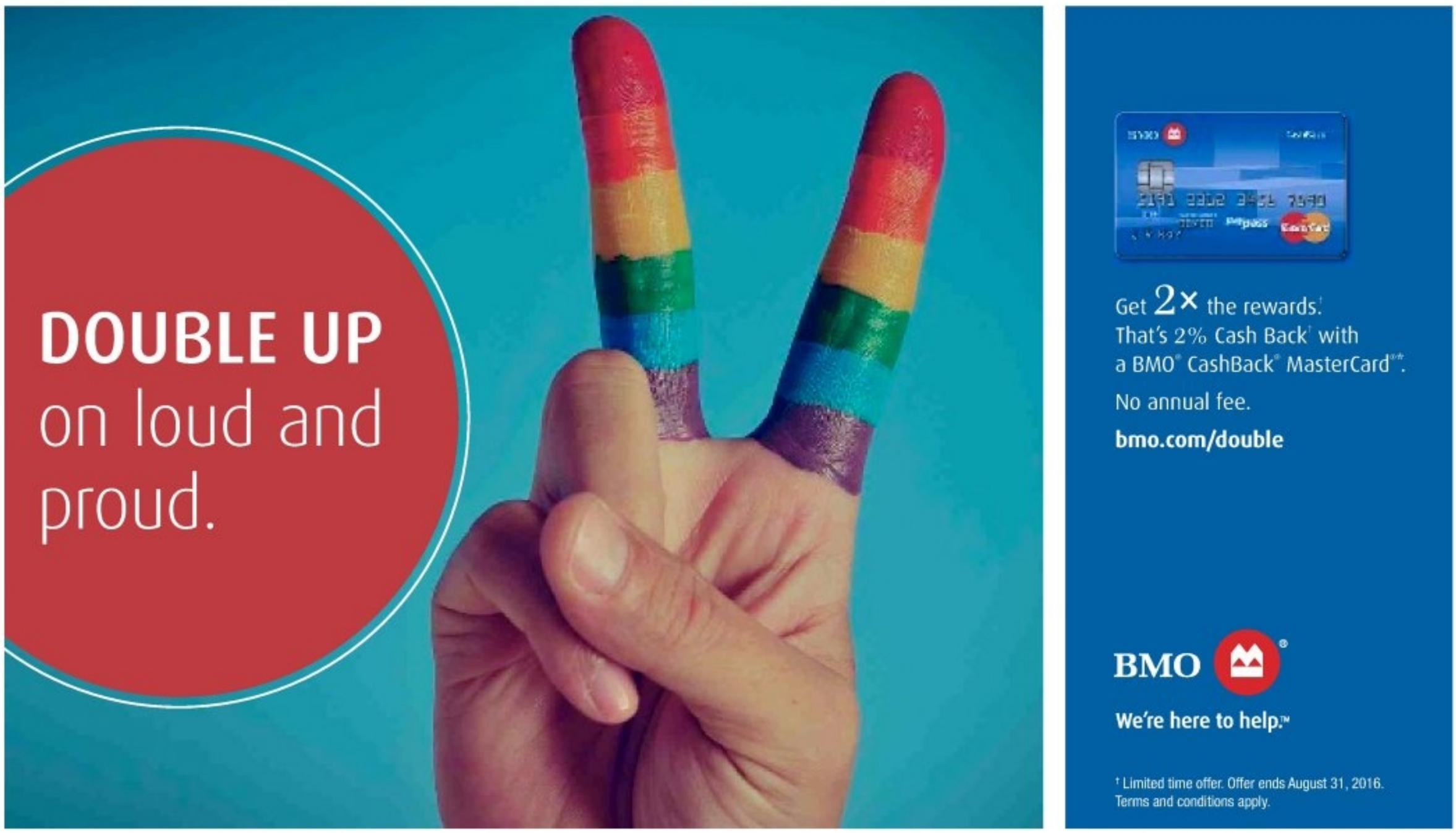
The committee is considering events including a West End games night on Thursday evenings, an art market on Saturdays and a Youth Jam Night with Directions Youth Services on Wednesdays. All events are still in the planning stages.

The area is already a gathering place for the community, and the new plaza will formalize that, creating seating and an inviting area for everyone.

"If these spaces are done really well, they can be amazing," Regan says.

The new Jim Deva Plaza pavement is painted with a deconstructed rainbow. DAVIEVILLAGE.CA

> **If these spaces are done really well, they can be amazing**
>
> Stephen Regan, executive director of the West End Business Improvement Association



Davie Street Party

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Remember a few basic guidelines to help keep Pride a success. JENNIFER GAUTHIER

# Make the parade a positive and respectful event

**Stephanie Orford**

Coming to watch, cheer for, shake your booty in, or otherwise enjoy the Pride Parade this year? Here are a few basic guidelines to help keep the parade a positive and respectful event.

**Stay on the sidewalk**
Some marchers and floats will be giving out free swag, but don't worry. You don't have to go out to them. They will come to you. Make sure you stay off the road so that the parade has a clear path. There will be plenty of opportunities to take Pride selfies from the sidewalk.

**Keep your water to yourself**
Yes, it's hot, and spraying water may seem like a good idea, but some of the people marching in the parade have expensive, painstakingly constructed costumes that could easily become water damaged. The sound equipment on some floats may also be at risk.

So by all means cool down with water — just make sure you keep it to yourself.

**Help keep the event zero-waste**
It's common sense among Vancouverites not to throw trash and recycling on the ground.

But this even applies when you're dancing like a maniac at Pride. Use the recycling and garbage bins that are located throughout the parade route.

**Stay safe from the sun**
The Pride Parade is about having fun, not passing out on the pavement from heat stroke. Stay hydrated and wear a hat and sunscreen.

**Leave the booze behind**
Open alcohol is prohibited at the Pride Parade. However, it will be available later on for those 19 years and up at the various Pride after parties and the beer garden at the Sunset Beach Festival. Hold your horses.

**Take public transit**
Ecstatic crowds are part of the fun at the Vancouver Pride Parade, but they're also the reason why driving there is not a good idea. Plan ahead to make sure you can take public transit to the event instead.

**Bring an open heart and inclusive attitude**
The Vancouver Pride Parade is an event for people of all ages, origins, genders, sexualities and abilities.

Make sure you behave in a respectful way toward fellow Pride-goers. That inclusivity is what Pride is all about.

# After the parade, it's a beach party

MUSIC AND MORE

## Sunset Beach will have about 120 vendors in the Pride Market

**Stephanie Orford**

After the 2016 Pride Parade has completed its fabulous procession through the West End on Sunday, July 31, the Sunset Beach Festival is the place to be.

The celebration, located at one of Vancouver's most iconic beaches, will have about 120 vendors in the Pride Market, including local artisans and community organizations, and 16 food vendors.

Or get a beverage in the beer garden. You won't be alone if you get up and dance. DJs will be spinning in the beer garden all day long.

Visitors can enjoy music at one of two stages, the main stage and the beer garden stage, and programming runs from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On the main stage, visitors can expect a variety of bands, drag performers and speakers.

"It's a celebration gathering space for people," said Kieran Burgess, managing director of the Vancouver Pride Society. "Some people see each other at the front or along the parade, but it can be hard to connect. This is a space where people can mingle afterwards."

Sunset Beach Party will be completely accessible, including shade tents for those with mobility issues, as well as ASL interpreters. A bike valet is provided by donation, for those who take a spin on the sea wall before or after the event.

All ages are welcome too. Kids will have a great time in the Family Fun Zone. Presented by Hollyburn Properties, the area features entertainment that is free or by-donation. Families can enjoy a bouncy castle and the TD Kids Mural.

"We get a lot of questions about who's invited to Pride, who can come, who to expect there," Burgess said. "We are all about including everyone and creating safe spaces for everyone to come and enjoy."

The Sunset Beach Festival the perfect way to wrap up Pride.

**The Sunset Beach Festival, like the Pride Parade is open and inclusive to all.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**Pride is about respect and sensitivity for people of all genders and sexual orientations.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

# A guide to LGBTQ2+ terminology

TERMS

## Queer, agendered, LGBTQ2+; brush up on the jargon

**Stephanie Orford**

Equality among people of all genders and sexual orientations starts with respect and sensitivity. The LGBTQ2+ is a rainbow of people with many different sets of sexual preferences, identities and needs.

To learn more, start by brushing up on your terminology. Here's some of the terms to be aware of.

**LGBTQ2+**
This initialism is spelled differently by many different groups, and is meant to represent the range of sexualities spanning but not limited to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and two-spirited individuals.

**Agendered**
Sometimes a person's gender is neither male nor female, nor a combination of either. Agendered means "having no gender."

**Asexual**
Someone who is asexual does not feel sexually attracted to people of any gender. Asexual individuals may consider themselves free from sexuality.

**Gender variant**
An individual's expression of gender that does not match the gender role expected of them in their culture. Gender variance is also known as gender nonconformity.

**Intersex**
An intersex person may have biological sexual characteristics that are typical of both male and female sexes, such as genitalia and/or secondary sexual traits that share both male and female aspects.

**Cisgender**
The Latin word "cis" means "on this side of." When applied to gender, it means someone who identifies as the gender they were assigned when they were born.

**Transgender**
The Latin word "trans" means "across." A transgender individual identifies as a gender other than that which they were assigned when they were born.

**Two-Spirited**
This term is also called twospirit or two spirit. It is used by some North American indigenous people to refer to individuals in their communities who do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth. The term may refer to a variety of gender identities.

**Pronouns**
Some individuals prefer to be referred to by particular pronouns — he, she, they, one, ze and more. It's respectful to pay attention to a person's preferences and use the pronouns they feel most comfortable with. If you aren't sure, just ask, "What pronouns do you prefer?"

**Queer**
This is a general term used casually to refer to individuals who are not cisgender or heterosexual. It may apply across the LGBTQ2+ spectrum.

It's important to remember that the definitions and interpretations of these terms sometimes change, they can vary between individuals and groups, and can change for an individual over their lifetime.

The best way to respect someone's identity is to listen to them and pay attention to their personal preferences.

WHAT TO WEAR

## Dressing to impress at Pride

Pride is all about self-expression. If, for you, that means dressing to impress, go for it, says Kieran Burgess, managing director of the Vancouver Pride Society, adding that there will be a myriad of outrageous, fun, dazzling costumes at Pride.

Pretty much anything goes, as long as it's relatively family friendly, says Burgess. Rainbows, of course, are the order of the day, but your outfit can be whatever your heart desires.

"We have a saying with our volunteers: Express yourself, not expose yourself. Wear whatever you like as long as it's family friendly."

What you wear to the after party is a different story.

JENNIFER GAUTHIER PHOTO

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# Vancouver Pride Parade Map

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# Read this, Mr. Customs Officer

AMERICA

## History, great eats — why *wouldn't* you visit Philly?

Loren Christie
For Metro Canada

When I told the American customs officer we were headed to Philadelphia, he was skeptical. "Why?" he asked incredulously. Unfortunately I had no rebuttal at the time, but after 48 hours discovering this historic city I would come up with plenty of ammunition.

### The eclectic neighbourhoods

Philly, we discovered after two solid days of walking, feels like 10 cities in one.

There are areas dedicated to cultural interests; my highlights were the Parkway Museums District, including the juggernaut Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the historic old city, which is home to the some of the most important moments in U.S. history such as the creation and signing of the Declaration of Independence.

There are also neighbourhoods that are lower key, such as the residential area of Society Hill, with its beautifully kept brick town homes and grittier feeling South Street.

Walking around City Hall, which looks like a grand Louis XIV French palace, we gawked at the incredible architecture.

The Spruce Street Harbor Park was the perfect place to grab a beer and people watch. For the last three years forward thinking city officials have created a pop up park for the summer months. Partly constructed out of floating barges moored along the Delaware River, visitors can grab higher end grab-and-go food from cargo containers, play arcade games or chill out in the hammock garden or on a net suspended over the river.

Philadelphia, which hosts the Democratic National Convention from July 25-28, is rich in American history — and delicious food. LOREN CHRISTIE

### The Food

Upon arrival, we headed to the bar at the funky Hotel Palomar where we struck up a conversation with a self-professed foodie named Matt.

He recommended booking a table at nearby Vernick.

It was hands down the best meal I have had in recent memory; tuna with foie gras and rhubarb, a romaine and fig salad that was out of this world and wood-fired organic Amish chicken.

Over the course of the weekend, we realized this was not a one off.

We enjoyed stylish Italian comfort food the following night at Little Nonna's in the "gayborhood" and fantastic Philly cheesesteak lunches in the Reading Terminal Market, a vibrant food market in the heart of the city.

A lot of places bill themselves as foodie destinations, Philadelphia actually is one.

I like to be surprised and Philly was an unexpected delight. Easy and friendly, it felt like the best of Washington, Boston and Chicago combined. Mr. Customs Officer, next time I'll have my answers ready.

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ALL PHOTOS BRENDAN VAN SON

# Europe's most underrated cities

While famous European cities such as Paris, London and Rome swell with tourists year-round, there are still plenty of under-visited destinations on the continent.

And while many first-time visitors may stick to the usual subjects in Europe, savvy travellers know there are plenty of worthy places to see off the tourist trail. Here are five of those cities.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1. **Kotor, Montenegro** — If there's any destination on this list poised to jump from underrated to extremely popular, it's the town of Kotor. This Montenegrin gem is situated within the southernmost fjord in Europe.

2. **Gdansk, Poland** — Almost completely destroyed by bombings during World War II, Gdansk has since been restored to its former beauty. Cute canals, narrow townhouses, and lively squares make this city a feast for the eyes.

3. **Meteora, Greece** — To add to the drama of this incredible pillared landscape, many of the geological features are topped by ancient monasteries.

4. **Belfast, Northern Ireland** — Belfast is a wonderful city, though it still suffers from a bad reputation. However, those who spend time in Belfast quickly fall for the history, counterculture, incredible murals, and its people.

5. **Tallinn, Estonia** — One of the most incredible things about Tallinn is looking down from its high ancient walls. You can see the rings of history — a medieval centre, drab socialist buildings surrounding it, and the modern city that encapsulates it all.

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"This will scare a lot of people ... the sport is serious, we want a clean sport": Usain Bolt on the Russian track-and-field ban

# Team Canada springs for a golden flag-bearer

OLYMPICS

## MacLennan picked to lead countrymen at opening fete

Heading into her third Olympic Games, trampoline gymnast Rosie MacLennan is a defending gold medallist who has seen everything her high-flying, dangerous sport can throw at her.

But the 27-year-old has never had a week like this past one.

She got a call last Wednesday from Curt Harnett, Canada's chef de mission at this year's Games in Rio. The three-time Olympic medallist gave her the news that she would be Canada's flag-bearer for the Games' opening ceremony, making her the first gymnast to receive that honour.

**WINNING**
On top of being an Olympic gold medallist, MacLennan was also a world champion and two-time Pan-Am Games gold medallist.

Then she had to sit on that news for a week.

"It is a hard secret to keep because obviously it's something I'm incredibly proud about," MacLennan said in a conference call from Ottawa on Thursday, after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau had introduced her at Parliament Hill as the flag-bearer.

"My boyfriend was there when I got the news so he found out and he was able to be (in Ottawa) too. Wednesday night I kind of mentioned to my family that they should maybe watch the announcement," she said, laughing.

MacLennan, who is from King City, Ont., will lead 314 Canadian athletes into the opening ceremony in Rio on Aug. 5.

"Rosie is awesome. She epitomizes what it means to be a leader in the sporting world and has shown how sheer grit and determination can make you a champion," Harnett said in a press release. "I look forward to marching into the opening ceremony with Rosie leading the pack."

MacLennan is the first gymnast to be flag-bearer at the opening ceremony but, as she has in her career, she follows fellow trampoline gymnast Karen Cockburn in carrying the flag. Cockburn was the flag-bearer in the closing ceremony for Canada in Beijing in 2008.

"I'm really incredibly proud to be representing gymnastics in trampoline. It's a sport that I'm truly passionate about," MacLennan said. "I've been doing it for 20 years now and I think it's a great privilege to be the first person to carry it into the opening ceremonies, but also to be following in Karen's footsteps."

Rosie MacLennan drapes herself with the Canadian flag on Parliament Hill Thursday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MacLennan was front and centre in a brief ceremony Thursday morning. Flanked by Canadian Olympic Committee officials and Trudeau, MacLennan looked as though she took a breath to keep her cool as the PM introduced her.

"It was incredible," she said. "It was great that he took the time out of his obviously busy schedule to attend the announcement and it was an honour for him to introduce me.

"I think he's been a great supporter of sport and I know he'll be cheering the team on. It was a huge privilege to be there." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **She epitomizes what it means to be a leader in the sporting world and has shown how sheer grit and determination can make you a champion.** Chef de mission Curt Harnett

CANADIAN OPEN

# Johnson has share of the lead at Glen Abbey

Dustin Johnson GETTY IMAGES

Dustin Johnson and Luke List may be co-leaders, but it's the weather that's dominating play at the RBC Canadian Open.

Johnson made an eagle putt on the par-5 18th hole at Oakville, Ont.'s Glen Abbey Golf Club to tie clubhouse leader List at 6-under 66 on Thursday to loud applause. Johnson seemed out of contention for the first-round lead after a double bogey on 14, but then recovered with a birdie on 16 to set up the climactic shot.

Most players struggled with the fast greens and fairways, making it tricky to play off the browned rough and not roll through the harder grass as a drought continues to dry out southern Ontario. High winds had flags ripping wildly and played havoc with high shots, making it difficult to play an accurate long game.

Luke List
GETTY IMAGES

"It's firm and fast," said world No. 2 Johnson moments after stepping off the course. "It's definitely tough to get the ball close to the hole. You've really got to land the ball on your numbers.

"With it being as windy as it was today, it was tough to do that."

List had a birdie on No. 10, his first hole of the round, then followed it up with a birdie on Nos. 13, 15, 16 and 18 to take an early lead. He stayed steady through the front nine. He pointed to his early start time — 7:20 a.m. — as helping with his quick start.

"I was very fortunate that the first five holes there wasn't much wind at all and then it kind of picked up," said List. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**TOP CANUCK**

Amateur Jared du Toit of Kimberley, B.C., eagled the par-4 17th hole, then birdied 18 to enter the clubhouse in a tie for third at 5-under 67. Americans Chesson Hadley and Kelly Kraft were also at 5 under.

DOPING SCANDAL

## Russians lose appeal for track team ban

Now that Russian track and field athletes have failed in their effort to have their Olympic ban overturned, it's up to the IOC to decide whether to kick the entire Russian team out of the Games that begin in Rio de Janeiro in 15 days.

In another blow to the image of the sports superpower, the highest court in sports on Thursday dismissed an appeal by 68 Russian track athletes of the ban imposed by the IAAF following allegations of systematic and state-sponsored doping.

Sports officials in Moscow condemned the ruling as "political," and said some athletes might take their case to civil courts.

> **Let all these pseudo-clean foreign athletes breathe a sigh of relief and win their pseudo-gold medals without us.**
> Russian Olympic pole vault champion Yelena Isinbayeva

In its ruling, the Court of Arbitration for Sport found that track and field's world governing body, the IAAF, had properly applied its own rules in keeping the Russians out of the Games that begin Aug. 5.

The three-man panel ruled that the Russian Olympic Committee "is not entitled to nominate Russian track and field athletes to compete at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games considering that they are not eligible to participate under the IAAF competition rules." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**14**

**A group of 14 national anti-doping agencies sent a letter to IOC president Thomas Bach urging a complete ban "to uphold the Olympic Charter and the integrity of the Rio Olympic Games."**

# NBA taking a stand on HB2

NORTH CAROLINA

## All-star game to be moved in response to LGTBQ law

The NBA is moving the 2017 all-star game out of Charlotte because of its objections to a North Carolina law that limits anti-discrimination protections for lesbian, gay and transgender people.

The league had expressed its opposition to the law known as HB2 since it was enacted in March, and its decision Thursday came less than a month after legislators revisited the law and chose to leave it largely unchanged.

"While we recognize that the NBA cannot choose the law in every city, state, and country in which we do business, we do not believe we can successfully host our All-Star festivities in Charlotte in the climate created by HB2," the league said in a statement.

The league added that it hoped to announce a new location for next February's events shortly. It hopes to reschedule the 2019 game for Charlotte if there is a resolution to the matter.

"We understand the NBA's decision and the challenges around holding the NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte this season. There was an exhaustive effort from all parties to keep the event in Charlotte, and we are disappointed we were unable to do so," Hornets chairman Michael Jordan said. "We are pleased that the NBA opened the door for Charlotte to host All-Star weekend again as soon as an opportunity was available in 2019."

There was no appetite among Republican lawmakers to change the provision requiring transgender people to use restrooms corresponding to the sex on their birth certificates in many public buildings — a measure at the heart of two legal challenges in federal court.

The law passed in March also excludes sexual orientation and gender identity from antidiscrimination protections related to the workplace, hotels and restaurants; and overrules local antidiscrimination ordinances. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**LAW'S IMPACT**

- The law has drawn opposition from a number of entertainers who have cancelled performances in North Carolina.
- Charlotte officials have said they expected the all-star game to have an economic impact of around $100 million.

**Carlos Condit**
THE CANADIAN PRESS

UFC

## Condit pledges to excite Vancouver

Carlos Condit says it will up be to him to raise the excitement level in his main event bout with Demian Maia on Aug. 27 in Vancouver.

Condit, a prickly striker ranked fifth among UFC welterweight contenders, is known for putting on a show. In his last outing he connected on 176 significant strikes in a split-decision five-round loss to champion Robbie Lawler at UFC 195 in January.

Condit believes Maia, a Brazilian jiu-jitsu master ranked third among 170-pound contenders, is less appealing to watch despite his current five-fight win streak.

"I think Maia's a great fighter," Condit said Thursday on a visit to Vancouver to promote the televised card at Rogers Arena. "His striking has definitely improved. He fights safe, though.

"For all intents and purposes, he should be the No. 1 contender with a title shot.... I need to make this exciting, like I tend to do. If I do that, I can win — I know I can win." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**IN BRIEF**

**Tillman guides O's to win**
Chris Tillman tied for the MLB league lead with his 14th win, pitching four-hit ball for seven innings and helping the depleted Baltimore Orioles avert a four-game sweep at Yankee Stadium, beating New York 4-1 Thursday.

The Orioles had lost four straight overall, costing them their lead in the AL East. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Leader Froome wins 18th**
Chris Froome won a mountain time trial in the 18th stage to extend his overall lead to three minutes, 52 seconds at the Tour de France on Thursday.

Taking his second stage win this year, Froome finished 21 seconds ahead of Dutch rider Tom Dumoulin over the 17-kilometre route from Sallanches to the Megeve ski resort. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Cilic parts ways with legend Ivanisevic**
Marin Cilic has split with coach Goran Ivanisevic after nearly three years of co-operation that included winning the U.S. Open in 2014.

The 12th-ranked Croat said Thursday on his Facebook page that he "enjoyed our work all this time and Goran helped me to reach many goals." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


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# RECIPE Spiced Flank Steak with Chimichurri

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Take an inexpensive cut like flank steak to the next level with this easy yet super flavourful and fresh sauce.

**Ready in**
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Total Time: 30 minutes
Serves: 4

**Ingredients**
- 1 beef flank steak (900 kg)
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp coriander
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- 1/4 tsp oregano
- 1/4 tsp pepper
- For the Chimichurri
- 1/2 cup packed fresh basil
- 1/2 cup packed fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 cup packed fresh cilantro
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, roughly chopped
- 2 tsp lime juice
- 1 tablespoon white wine vinegar
- 1 tsp anchoive paste
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/8 tsp pepper

**Directions**

**1.** Place the basil, parsley, cilantro, oil, garlic, lime, vinegar, anchoive paste, salt and pepper in a blender. Process until smooth. Pour into a serving bowl. Preheat the broiler and coat a pan with cooking spray.

**2.** Combine the salt, coriander, cumin, oregano and pepper. Sprinkle the mixture over both sides of the steak. Place steak on the prepared pan and broil in oven for 4 minutes per side. Transfer steak to a cutting board and allow to rest 5 minutes. Cut against the grain into 1/4-inch wide strips. Serve with chimichurri spooned over top with fresh greens and sliced cherry tomatoes.

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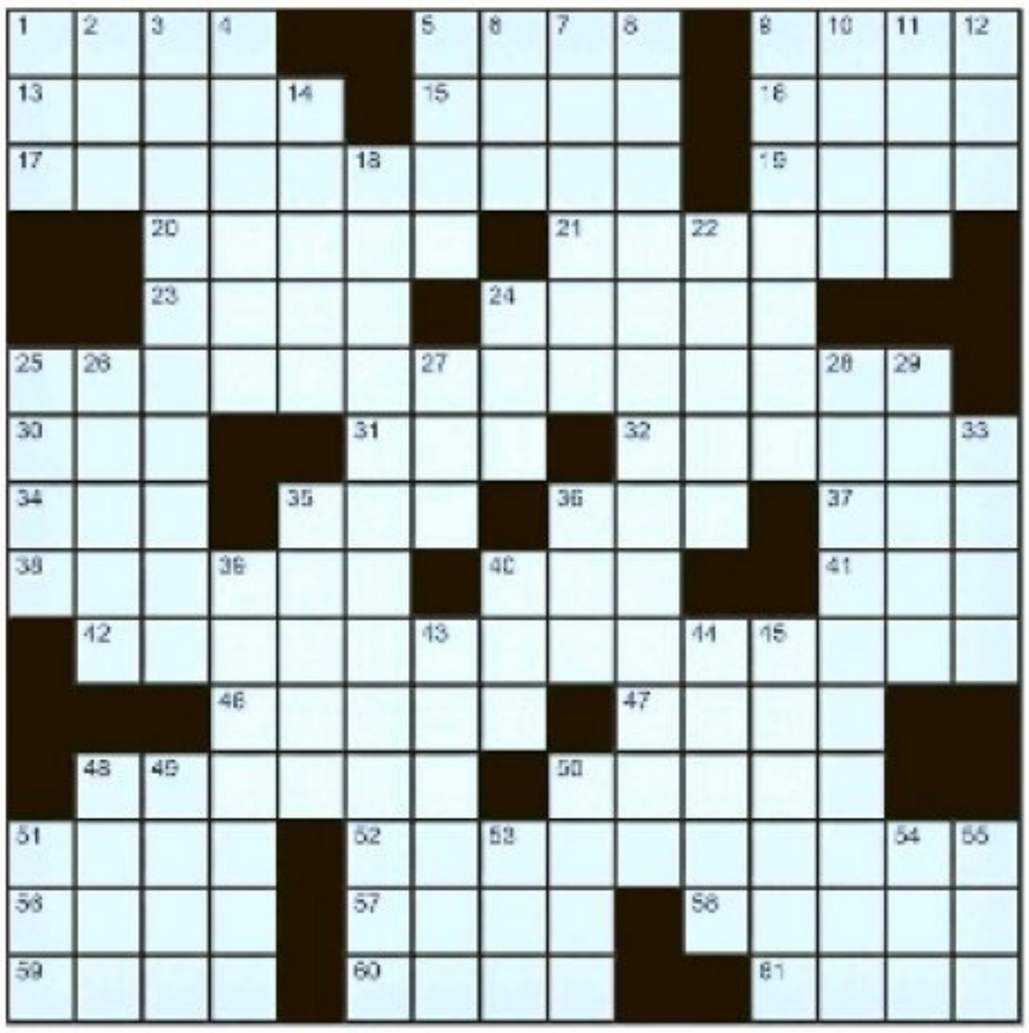
# CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



**ACROSS**
1. Night personified, in Norse myth
5. Biblical land
9. Skipping _
13. "See _ _ Saturday!" ...exclaimed the up-coming-weekend-get-together attendee
15. A _ _ (Record company division)
16. Face shape
17. "U-571" (2000) rocker/actor: 3 wds.
19. Repair
20. "O Canada! Terre _ _ aieux..."
21. Mystery writer awards
23. Jackie Wilson's "_ Petite"
24. Inert gas
25. Principal photography for this new sci-fi movie took place in Vancouver and Squamish: 3 wds.
30. Y-ending word's plural suffix
31. Britannica, e.g.
32. Rollick
34. Ben-Hur author Mr. Wallace
35. '60s hallucinogen
36. Not is
37. Presidential hubby of Nancy ...his monogram
38. How journalists might get info: 3 wds.
40. Track circuit
41. Even if, briefly
42. "Rocket Robin Hood", e.g.: 3 wds.
46. Mr. Brolin's
47. Oohs and _
48. Dessert creation
50. _ Clarke (1889 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle novel)
51. Volcanic rock
52. Twisted Sister hit: 3 wds.
56. Farm team
57. "Hina _ _ (Celebration)" by Susan Aglukark
58. _ Linda, California
59. Ms. Lollobrigida
60. Hold
61. Loch _ Monster

**DOWN**
1. Big Apple football team [acronym]
2. Greeting card 'hugs'
3. Waterfowl that summers in the Canadian Arctic (Trivia! When flying, its wings make a whistling sound): 2 wds.
4. July 22nd to July 24th, 2016... 'Golden' drink/culinary/music event in Canada's largest city, _ _ _ Festival
5. Mil. ranks
6. Artist Yoko
7. Part of speech
8. Canadian actor Harpreet Sandhu's role in #25-Across: 2 wds.
9. House of _ (Anastasia's family)
10. Throughout
11. Cook's needs
12. Past time
14. Three trios
18. Private property warning: 2 wds.
22. Many paintings at Madrid art museum El Prado
24. US dog org.
25. Barn's pal
26. "Lovergirl" by _ Marie
27. Finish
28. Vancouver's range, _ _ Mountains
29. Long-running Brit sci-fi TV series, shortened up here: 2 wds.
33. Old-fashioned 'think'
35. Chauffeured rides
36. Bundle
39. City in Mexico
40. Guitarist Mr. Paul
43. World event, for instance, of 1940s history: 2 wds.
44. Hip-style holiday
45. Kelly Osbourne's mum
48. Singer, _ Priest
49. Stove
50. In-a-row letters
51. Journal
53. Sushi tuna
54. "60 Minutes" network
55. '_' _ in Kingston

# IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

**Aries** March 21 - April 20
The next four weeks are the perfect time for a vacation. It's also your time to enjoy flirtations, romance, love affairs, playful times with children and the arts. Enjoy!

**Taurus** April 21 - May 21
Home, family and your private life will be your main focus for the next four weeks. Many of you will want to redecorate and make your home look more attractive.

**Gemini** May 22 - June 21
You are naturally curious, and you like a busy pace. This is why you will love the next four weeks — you've got places to go, things to do and people to see!

**Cancer** June 22 - July 23
Money, cash flow, earnings, possessions and major purchases are top menu items for you in the next four weeks. Trust your moneymaking ideas. Expect to shop for goodies for yourself and loved ones.

**Leo** July 24 - Aug. 23
The next four weeks are your chance to recharge your batteries for the rest of the year. You will attract people and favorable situations to you. Yay!

**Virgo** Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Use the next four weeks to make plans for what you want your new year (birthday to birthday) to be all about. Set some goals with deadlines.

**Libra** Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You have a popular month ahead! Accept all invitations and enjoy the company of others, because you will shine in their eyes.

**Scorpio** Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
People will admire you in the next four weeks, especially bosses, parents and VIPs. Take advantage of this to push your agenda and ask for what you want.

**Sagittarius** Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
If you can travel or get out of town in the next four weeks, you will love it. You need to do something different to expand your horizons.

**Capricorn** Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Tie up loose details in the next month regarding inheritances, shared property and debt. (Whatever you do probably will end up being to your advantage.)

**Aquarius** Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will need more rest in the next four weeks, because you will feel tired. Meanwhile, friendships and partnerships will be your strong focus.

**Pisces**
Feb. 20 - March 20
Do whatever you can in the next four weeks to get better organized. Suddenly you have a desire to be efficient, effective and productive! "Tickety-boo!"

**CONCEPTIS SUDOKU** by Dave Green

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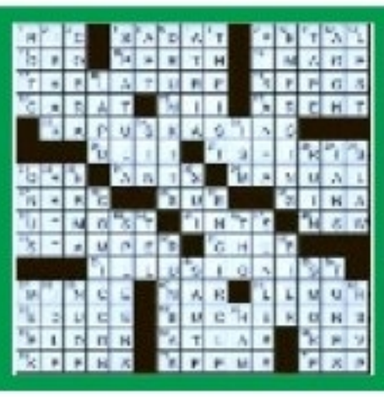

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